

HALESOWEN CHRONICLE



Thursday, November 20, 2014

Read by more than 41,000 people

Price when sold 50p

RING HERO

Frank meets the fans at charity event



PAGE 3

PANTO STAR

Coronation Street bad boy's festive role



PAGE 23

Two men charged after fatal car crash

TWO men have been charged after a bus stop car crash that killed a student from Oldbury.

Rebecca McManus was waiting at the stop on Hagley Road West, Bearwood, when a Mitsubishi said to have been driven by sales rep Sukvinder Mannan, 32, crashed into it. Miss McManus, 21, was pronounced dead at the scene on May 31 whilst a friend, also 21, was seriously hurt.

Mannan, of Roundhills Road, Halesowen, was arrested within an hour of the crash. Computer engineer Inderjit Singh, from Cranbourne Avenue, Ettingshall, was arrested at his home on June 15. Both men have now answered bail and were charged with causing death by dangerous driving and causing serious injury through dangerous driving.

Mannan has also been charged with failing to provide a blood sample, whilst Singh faces a separate count of failing to stop at the scene of an accident.

They will appear at Sandwell Magistrates Court on December 2.

Miss McManus had attended King Edward VI College in Stourbridge and had been studying English Literature and creative writing at the University of East Anglia in Norwich.

Black Country Day thanks

ORGANISERS who masterminded the first ever festival to celebrate the Black Country will be honoured at a civic reception in Dudley next week.

The Mayor of Dudley Councillor Margaret Aston has sent out invites to key players behind July's festival to join her in the Mayor's Parlour on Tuesday to thank them for their efforts.

Tens of thousands of people enjoyed the first Black Country Festival, marking official Black Country Day on July 14.

POLICE STATION COUNTER CUTS

Hospital trust plan to slash 400 jobs

FOUR hundred jobs will be axed at Dudley's hospital trust during the next two years as it looks to save £14 million.

Bosses plan to reduce staff numbers through retirement and a 'mutually agreed resignation scheme' which enables workers to leave in return for a set severance payment.

They have promised that compulsory redundancies would be a 'last resort'.

Cuts

Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, which employs 4,500 staff, is bidding to balance its books in the wake of Government funding cuts.

It will also restrict recruitment to vacant posts, although bosses say they will continue to recruit to essential frontline nursing posts on wards and in the community.

Earlier this year, the trust revealed it was facing a £6.7 million deficit.

Chief executive Paula Clark said the hospital trust board's decision was not taken lightly. "Our priority is always to provide high quality patient care as well as protecting our workforce and, if we can get the vacancy controls right, then we can reduce redundancies," she said.

'Fan zone' bid to rescue pub

THE Hawthorns pub going to be transformed into a 'fan zone' by West Bromwich Albion.

The Grade II listed building will have live music, children's activities, food, drink and merchandise stands and a big screen linked to the system inside the ground.

The zone is inspired by similar projects across the country including one near Liverpool's Anfield ground.

Officials aim to launch it next season at the derelict Halfords Lane pub.

Town centre lit up for festive season



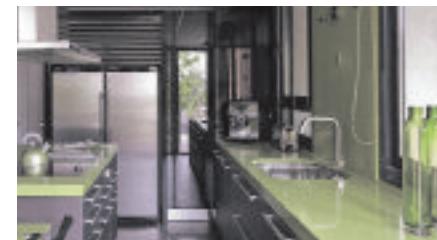
Let it snow — at the switch-on were Nathan Pauly and Georgia Harvey Duncan-Price

SHAW STONE SURFACES LTD

GRANITE WORKTOPS

Unit 11, Mucklow Hill Trading Estate, Mucklow Hill, Halesowen, West Midlands B62 8DF
www.shawstonesurfaces.co.uk email: sales@shawstonesurfaces.co.uk Tel: 0121 503 0817

- Granite, Quartz and Corian Kitchen Worktops
- Template and Installation Service
- Worktop Replacement Service
- 15 Year stain proof granite warranty and 10 year Silestone warranty
- Bespoke vanities for bathrooms
- Hearths and Fireplaces made to measure



CONTENTS

Peter Rhodes	4
Feature	6
Letters	7
Memory Lane	18
What's On	23
TV Guide	24 - 26
Brain Gym	27
Property	28
Motoring	30
Sport	39 & 40

CONTACT US

Have you got a story or an event you want covered? The Chronicle and Express & Star have a team of reporters covering Halesowen who can help:

Heather Large: 01384 353203

heather.large@expressandstar.co.uk

Alex Ross: 01384 353207

alexross@expressandstar.co.uk

Andrew Turton: 01384 353202

andrew.turton@expressandstar.co.uk

Lee Watton: 01384 353230

lee.watton@expressandstar.co.uk

Tom Mason: 01902 319550

tom.mason@expressandstar.co.uk

Katy-Rose Meaney: 01384 353201

katy.meaney@expressandstar.co.uk

What's happening in your area? We are always keen to hear about any issues affecting you. E-mail your information and pictures to: dudley.chrons@expressandstar.co.uk

Sports:

Tel: 01902 319453. e-mail: chronsport@expressandstar.co.uk

Photographic

Tel: John Sam Brooks 01902 319431

Advertising

Nicky Cope
01902 319573
Email nicola.cope@expressandstar.co.uk

Motoring:

Liz Barratt
Tel: 01384 353244
E-mail: liz.barratt@expressandstar.co.uk

Distribution:

Paul Jones
Tel: 01902 319990
E-mail: p.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

HALESOWEN CHRONICLE

51-53, Queen Street
Wolverhampton

Open Monday to Friday 9am-1pm
and 2pm-5pm

www.yourchronicle.com

Able & Bromley Carpets / Beds**WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DISCOUNT WAREHOUSE****WE DO WHAT OTHER CARPET FIRMS WON'T.**

Help move heavy furniture, up lift plus take away old carpets FREE OF CHARGE
Shave doors. Bed assemble and disposal.
Plus free fitting on selected ranges.

Divan Beds

Single from £96
Double from £160



80/20 Wool Twists from £8.99 sq yd
WAS £22 sq.yd.

PLUS... UP TO 75% OFF many instore items!
We will beat your BIG Superstores

Click on-line for many great prices - www.ablecarpets.co.uk

Free quotes and Planning

Warehouse Unit, D Dormston Trading Est.,
Burton Road, Gornal DY1 3TD
OPEN: MON-SAT 9.30-5.00

FREEPHONE
0800 0853747

COVERS ALL AREAS

Adrian Bromley
01902 880541

FURNITURE/
RUGS/VINYLS
& LAMINATES

DISABLED? DAP? CAN'T GET OUT?

or anyone who just needs extra help!
Can't come to us, we'll come to YOU
We will bring 100s of carpet samples
and bed brochures to your door



Quality Double
Memory Foam bed
RRP Was £899
Now £299



Wiltons
from only
£8.99
sq yd



Terms & conditions apply



OPEN SUNDAYS
10am-3pm

**HOMECLAD**

- FASCIAS
- GUTTERING
- SOFFITS
- CLADDING
- TILE EDGING

**BEST VALUE IN
THE MIDLANDS**

PREMIUM
PRODUCTS EXPERTLY
FITTED BY A LOCAL
FAMILY COMPANY

SPECIAL OFFER
FREE guttering and downpipes

0800 73 13 946

CALL FOR A NO OBLIGATION QUOTE

16 MONUMENT AVENUE STOURBRIDGE DY9 8XS

FOOTWORKS Chiropody Clinic

- Full range of services with disabled friendly access
- Nail Cutting and Trimming
- Diabetic Footcare
- Corns and Calluses

01384 413444

201-203 Halesowen Road, Old Hill B64 6HE

www.footworkschiropracists.co.uk

**Broken Dentures?**

1 hour
denture
repair
service

New Dentures
available & made at...

The Dental Shop
Est. 1981

01384 413444

201-203 Halesowen Road, Old Hill, W. Mids. B64 6HE

www.the-dental-shop.co.uk



Jayne with her whooping wedding party of 44 bridesmaids, 12 page boys, seven ushers and two best men and one best woman

Here comes the bride with 44 bridesmaids



Jayne and Shaun, the happy couple



Jayne arrives at church with her brother Stuart



Some of the 44 bridesmaid make their way to the church

Call for talks over new site of mosque

MUSLIM leaders say they will consider another site for a mosque in Dudley in a bid to halt a costly legal battle with the council.

They want to have fresh talks with council chiefs, despite their plans for a controversial mosque scheme on land off Hall Street getting the go-ahead last week.

Dudley Muslim Association is locked in a legal battle with Dudley Council over the land earmarked for the mosque with 62ft minaret.

Hearing

The association will not be able to build the place of worship unless they win a Court of Appeal hearing, which will rule on the council's bid to buy back the land.

The dispute has gone on for seven years and is next in court in February.

Association director Dr Khurshid Ahmed said he wanted a meeting with council bosses and would consider an alternative site.

He added: "I would like to see the council reflect on the whole issue and look at a number of options."

The land is owned by the association but the council won a previous High Court hearing to trigger a buy-back clause.

Street fun at big switch-on

SANTA will join Sandwell's deputy mayor in a fun-filled family Christmas lights switch-on in Oldbury.

Councillor Shirley Hosell, will officially switch the lights on in the Civic Square, at 6pm on Thursday, November 27. Lots of family fun is lined up from 4pm to 7pm with entertainers, a funfair and market stalls selling festive gifts.

Comedy street performers, sponsored by Black Country Touring, along with a ukulele group, brass band and gymnastics team are set to make it an entertaining evening.

Bette in Brum

SINGER and movie star Bette Midler is coming to Birmingham next year as part of her first UK tour in 35 years. Tickets go on sale tomorrow (Friday) for her show at the Barclaycard Arena in Birmingham (new name for the NIA) on July 9. Prices start at £50.

Heathens to share track with Brummies

CRADLEY Heathens speedway club will return to the track next season but at a new home — in Birmingham.

Heathens were told they could no longer use Wolverhampton's Monmore Green for 2015, their temporary home for the last four years.

But club chairman Nigel Pearson has revealed a deal has been struck to share Birmingham's Perry Barr Stadium. Heathens have been unable to find a location in Dudley borough to build a new home stadium.

Mr Pearson has criticised Dudley Council for not doing enough to help but council leader Councillor David Sparks said they have carried out "extensive searches" without success.

The club have lost the use of Monmore Green which is now only available for Elite League Wolverhampton.

The Birmingham Brummies aim to bounce back at the same Perry Barr venue with the clubs racing on alternate Wednesdays from March to October.

Mr Pearson said: "This is wonderful news for both sets of supporters. We will need every single Heathens fan to come along to Perry Barr and support us to ensure the club survives."

Call for gifts to be donated

SUPERMARKET staff are encouraging shoppers to donate clothes and toys for deprived children.

ASDA in Halesowen has teamed up with Dudley Council's Voluntary Service.

Sam Warby, from ASDA, said: "Last year we collected eight trolley loads of gifts, worth about £900, for the Operation Santa Appeal and the Black Country Foodbank. I'm confident we can top that this year."

The annual Operation Santa Toy Appeal has been run by the voluntary service for more than 20 years.

Call 01384 573381.

Gift fair at hall

HIMLEY Hall is to host a two-day Christmas gifts fair.

The event runs from 10.30am to 5pm on Saturday and Sunday and will feature more than 50 exhibitors from all over the country. Parking is free. Entry is £2 for adults, £1.50 OAPs and free for under-16s.

£9m overhaul for buses and town's station

BUS services across the borough are being revamped in a £9 million scheme including a new station in Dudley and better buses.

A deal to roll out a new generation of buses, with leather seats and charging points for mobile phones, alongside the revamp plans has been revealed by bosses at Centro.

Top-of-the-range free wi-fi equipped Saphire buses will be rolled out on services around the West Midlands as part of Partnership Plus, a deal signed by the area's

public transport co-ordinator body and operator Arriva Midlands.

They will also have capacity to take electronic smartcards, similar to London's Oyster card, which is a system being developed by Centro to modernise public transport in the Midlands.

Bosses signed the deal which pledges 22 further initiatives between 2014 and 2016 with the aim of making bus travel more attractive, improving customer satisfaction and boosting passenger numbers.

New buses will initially operate on the 110 route from Birmingham to Tamworth and number one and two services between Walsall and Cannock.

Arriva Midlands regional managing director, Alex Perry, said: "We are incredibly proud of the part we play in ensuring our customers have access to the very best transport service possible. We are delighted to enter into this agreement with Centro, which we believe will facilitate the continual enhancement of not only passenger ex-

perience, but also deliver patronage growth and an enriched service provision."

The details are still being worked on including what works will be carried out on Dudley bus station but bosses have revealed a number of schemes which form part of the contract.

A minimum of 20 new buses will roll out. Other features include enhanced CCTV on board buses, better training for drivers and the provision of real time passenger information at bus stops for Arriva services.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Tree planting for creator of park

THE 300th anniversary of poet William Shenstone was being celebrated with a tree planting event at a beauty spot in Halesowen on Monday.

The event was marking 300 years to the day since the birth of the famous poet and gardener who was from Halesowen and who designed The Leasowes park in the town.

Councillor Hilary Bills was joining the Friends of the Leasowes group, who have helped preserve the site, in planting a large common oak marked with a memorial plaque.

Match girl dance is brought to theatre

A TEARJERKING dance event will be held at Birmingham's Patrick Centre, within Birmingham Hippodrome, with a version of Hans Christian Andersen's The Little Match Girl from November 27 to 29.

Choreographer Arthur Pita's production, featuring original live music by Frank Moon, will be staged at 1.30 and 7pm on the Thursday and Friday, and 3pm on the Saturday. It is 70 minutes long.

See www.danceexchange.org.uk for more details.

New recruits join Snow Champions

MORE than 400 people had been recruited to become Snow Champions in Sandwell.

The new recruits will join the 7,000-strong team of volunteers who will be called into action to help their communities in bad weather.

Council leader Councillor Darren Cooper said: "Snow Champions clear pavements and paths to help others get around."

Firm is backing Operation Santa

A HALESOWEN firm of chartered accountants is backing the annual Operation Santa appeal by Dudley Council for Voluntary Services.

Presents can be placed unwrapped under the Christmas tree in the main reception area of their office in Church Court, Stourbridge Road, by December 9.

Beowulf's beers

A STOURBRIDGE pub has a week-long mini beer festival with brews from Brownhills brewery Beowulf. Folded Cross and Finn's Hall Porter will be among ales at Chequers Inn, Monday to Sunday.

THE West Midlands combined authority looks likely to be named 'Birmingham and the Black Country' but it may have to change if Coventry and Solihull accept an invitation to come on board.

Council leaders in Dudley, Sandwell, Wolverhampton, Walsall and Birmingham have agreed to set up a combined authority to take on powers that may be devolved from London — given the move to devolve powers since the Scottish Referendum.

The name Greater Birmingham is off the table but one proposed by Sandwell Council leader Darren Cooper is 'Birmingham and the Black Country'.

Invitation

The senior councillor said he still hoped that Coventry and Solihull would accept an invitation to join.

He said: "People are asking if we'll be known as Greater Birmingham. The simple answer is no."

"We will work on a name that will reflect the views of the local people, for example, it may be called Birmingham and the Black Country."

"However if other councils join us, we'll have to think of something else. Possibly, it could be the West Midlands Combined Authority. We're hoping to confirm the official name early next year."

Grande city gig for pop star

AMERICAN pop star Ariana Grande, who found fame on children's TV show Victorious, is coming to Birmingham as part of her first UK tour next year.

She will be in concert at Birmingham city centre venue the Barclaycard Arena on June 9. Her album My Everything has gone to number one in the charts in more than 80 countries. Tickets start at £32.50 plus fees and go on sale tomorrow (Friday).



Just knockout — Frank Bruno talks about his boxing career on a visit to Dudley

Bruno is still ring master for fans

IT is almost 20 years since he lifted boxing's heavyweight world crown but Frank Bruno is still a knockout.

He had room full of sports fans on their feet and chanting his name during a visit that helped raise more than £2,000 for Mary Stevens Hospice during a charity night at The Kingfisher Hotel and Club in Wall Heath.

The 53-year-old recalled the night of September 2 1995 when he outpointed Oliver McCall over 12 rounds to win the WBC title.

"It was the moment that the dream I had had as an eight year old came true. You do not forget moments like that," he said.

Mental illness has dogged the former world champion since he quit the ring.

He added: "It is 20 years since I was last in the ring and I am still ducking and diving. I have my good days and my bad days. It is not pleasant having the police come round and losing it after your marriage breaks up."

"But you have to be positive, grit your teeth, dust yourself down and get on with it because it is a tough old world out there."

GasOn Spares Ltd

10% Off Showroom Range Masters



The Halesowen Cooker & Fire Centre

Tel: 0121 585 7799

www.gasonspares.co.uk

Gas and Electric fires now available

We have good stocks of Range & 50cm/60cm Gas & Electric cookers, As Well as Gas/Electric Fires. We Also supply all Genuine Manufacture spares - Most being stocked

248 Hagley Road, Hasbury, Halesowen B63 4QQ

Freshly cooked to order.

Pizza's | Pasta | Burgers

Any Pizza
Any Size
Any Time
Only
£9.95

Pizza Deal
Any 3 Medium 10.5" **£13.95**
Any 3 Large 12" **£17.49**
Any 3 X-Large 15" **£21.49**

Pizza Deal

Any 2 Medium **£9.95**
Any 2 Large **£12.49**
Any 2 Super **£14.95**

Buy One Pizza Get One

FREE

205 Halesowen Road, Cradley Heath, Old Hill, B64 6HE

Tel: 01384 636786

www.pizzagogo-cradleyheath.co.uk

VISA MASTERCARD AMEX
All Major Credit/Debit Cards Accepted, Charges 50p

M & H FIREPLACES

RETAILER OF THE YEAR
2002-2003

Valor



Log Burners
Now In Stock

OPEN 5 DAYS. CLOSED WEDNESDAY & SUNDAY

Visit our showroom at:
Forge Lane, Cradley Heath, Halesowen, B64 5AL
(Opposite Cradley Bus and Train Station)

Telephone: 01384 345400

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



A READER says he has already been overwhelmed by Christmas spirit. He rushed out and bought his wife a new coal shovel, even though her battered and splintered old shovel would probably last until the January sales. Sir, she does not deserve you.

MORE green cobblers. A reader reports seeing this on the rear of a builders' van: "To reduce our carbon footprint this vehicle is limited to 70 mph." Which is, of course, the maximum national speed limit.

A READER, aware of my North Country roots, suggests the latest Volkswagen UP, an electric car which costs virtually nothing to run, should appeal to Yorkshire folk. He adds: "Its full name is E-UP. See? It even speaks Yorkshire."

NO-ONE denies that landing a European spacecraft on a comet far, far away is a brilliant technical achievement. However, the Rosetta project has gobbed up more than £1,000 million of our money and we have no choice in such matters. We EU taxpayers are committed by various Euro-treaties to spend colossal amounts of money on space research. Given a democratic choice, how many of us would have voted to send a spaceship to a comet rather than spending the money on something more pressing? Today our EU bosses may be thrilled to have put a probe on Comet 67P. But if we had invested that £1,000 million in medical research we might have found a cure for cancer.

A contributor to a Scottish newspaper's website tells the tale of a reporter in Dundee who came upon a terrible incident. A pit-bull terrier was attacking a small boy in the street when a man leaped forward and throttled the beast with his bare hands. The reporter pulled out her mobile phone, contacted her office and said: "I've got a great story. Use the headline: Dundee Hero Saves Child by Killing Vicious Dog. The bloodstained hero interrupted her: "Actually, I'm from Wolverhampton," he explained. The reporter snarled into her mobile: "Change headline to Englishman Kills Family Pet."

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

A CONSULTATION has been launched for residents to highlight the services they consider vital in Dudley as council bosses consider £57 million worth of cuts.

Dudley Council want people to select the top five services across the borough that matter the most to them — from rubbish collections to childrens services and town centre improvements.

By Andrew Turton

over the next three years we still have to find around a further £57 million."

People can take part by visiting www.dudley.gov.uk or by using #dudleybudget on twitter.

People can also pick up hard copy versions of the consultation from borough libraries and Dudley Council Plus in Castle Street, Dudley.

The consultation process runs through to January 25.

Also among the money-savers already highlighted are plans to turn off some street lights after midnight and reducing maintenance of parks.

More than 700 positions have been axed during the past four years as the council bids to balance the books. Among the job losses are senior management positions. By 2018, the council will need to have made £117m savings.

"So far, we have made £60 million of savings but

Finance boss Councillor Stuart Turner says that the authority was keen to bring back the Big Question consultation for a third year to ask residents to select the services they most value.

The responses will be used by council bosses when they look at finding savings by changing, or cutting, services to save money.

Councillor Turner said:

"As a community council,

"we've listened to our resi-

dents and attempted to

maintain a high level of

service whilst making the

savings that are required

due to the national funding

shortfall.

"So far, we have made

£60 million of savings but

Movie posters at auction



Chris Aston with movie posters going under the hammer

ORIGINAL posters promoting iconic films will be going under the hammer in Dudley.

The auction at Aston's Auctioneers on Tower Street will include posters for 1985 science-fiction classic Back to the Future and classic Clint Eastwood western The Good, The Bad and the Ugly.

Managing director and auctioneer Chris Aston said: "The Back to the Future one is an interesting poster. People love that film – it is a proper cult classic, so that could really do well."

"We also have a 'Le Mans', one which would be a treat for any Steve McQueen fan."

"The artwork is really nice on that so it would also be good for anyone into racing or someone who just wants to make their garage look a bit smarter."

More than 100 posters have already been put forward for the sale on December 11. They are all originals and would have been in cinema foyers to advertise the movies.

For more information call Aston's on 01384 931001.

Merry Hill is declared top of the malls

MERRY Hill shopping centre has toasted its 25th birthday with being named the best retail destination in the region.

Back in 1989 the vision of Black Country brothers Roy and Don Richardson became a reality with the completion of the shopping centre at Brierley Hill on the site of the closed Round Oak Steelworks.

The brothers spent £1 billion on the giant shopping mall and surrounding retail parks, which was also served by a monorail.

The centre has since attracted big name retailers such as Marks & Spencer, Debenhams, Sainsbury's and Asda, as well as achieving many notable firsts such as the country's first drive-thru McDonalds.

Over its quarter of a century anniversary, the centre proved its strength, by pipping it's big West Midlands rival the Bullring to be ranked the best shopping centre in the West Midlands, in the report by Trevor Wood Associates.

The report ranks the centres on their appeal to shoppers, retailers and investors.

Nationally, Merry Hill came ninth, the Bullring came 12th and Touchwood in Solihull was 41st.

Earlier this year Intu properties bought the centre from former owners Westfield.

Tenterfields Primary School



"This is a good school, pupils make good progress and standards are rising"

Ofsted
October 2012



Tiny Tenter Group - a stay and play session for children ages 2 and up takes place on Wednesdays from 1 - 3pm - cost is £3 per session

Tiny Tenter Group - a stay and play session for children ages 2 and up takes place on Wednesdays from 1 - 3pm - cost is £3 per session



If you would like to book an appointment to look round our wonderful school, please contact Mrs Rhian Welsh Acting Headteacher, on 01384 818560

Further details on our school website

www.tenterfieldspprimary.co.uk

Concept BLINDS

UP TO
50% OFF
ALL BLINDS

Vertical & Roller Blinds
New season fabrics now available

Child Safety Features Fitted Free of Charge



FREE fitting on all blinds

5 YEAR GUARANTEE

Also available

- Romans • Pleated
- Conservatory Roof Blinds
- Wood Venetians
- Venetian Blinds
- Curved Tracks for Bay Windows

FREPHONE

0800 5875279

Open Seven Days a Week

0121 429 3169

FREE Home Quote. FAST Delivery

There is one small job that you have been meaning to do for years -

Make Your Will

Only £75.00 plus VAT

Per person for couples, Mirror Wills.

Single Wills £80.00 plus VAT

A home visit at a convenient time

For information and appointment call

0845 678 7010

Mobile: 07771 992717

Wills, Trusts, Lasting Powers of Attorney, Will Storage, Estate Planning and Guardianship Trusts

Members of the Society of Will Writers

Goodwills Legal Services Ltd

www.goodwillsmidlands.co.uk

PLUMBMMASTER

SUPPLIERS TO TRADE AND PUBLIC

Complete Bathroom

FROM £189.99

including 1700 x 700 bath, basin, toilet and single tap for basin



Wide selection of walk-in showers available



- Complete central heating and parts available
- Taps • Towel rails • Showers
- Fascias & guttering

7 Kitchen Units

FROM £470

Gas and Electricity Safety Certificate

FREE QUOTES
All prices include VAT
FREE DELIVERY

0121 475 1112

6 Genners Lane, Bartley Green, Birmingham, B32 3JL
(next to Newman University College)

Open Mon - Fri 8.30am - 5.00pm, Sat 8.30am - 1.00pm

E-mail: plumbmaster.uk@gmx.com

Obesity costing region £114m

OBESEITY in the West Midlands is at a 'tipping point' as the cost to the public purse in the Black Country and Staffordshire was put at almost £115 million a year.

A summit of health professionals, businesses and others was held to try to tackle the crisis that sees more than two thirds of adults in Wolverhampton alone classed as overweight or obese.

The estimated annual 'cost of inactivity' in Dudley is put at £24.7m and at £25.7m in Sandwell. In Wolverhampton it is £22.5m and in Walsall £21.9m.

Exercise

The costs are added up for treating obese and overweight people.

Exercise promoter UK Active says in a report that the West Midlands has the highest per cent of adults who are physically inactive.

Speaking at the Obesity Summit held at Wolverhampton Racecourse, Councillor Sandra Samuels, the city's cabinet member for health, said: "It's particularly worrying that so many of our young people are now becoming obese."

"The situation is nearly at a tipping point right now but it is not too late to get something done."

"If we work together in moving forward then it is not impossible to change this situation."



Getting in the swing for Christmas — Paige Dunne, aged 9 from Halesowen, on fun fair ride at the lights switch-on



The Christmas Angel left her tree to join the crowds enjoying the festive lights switch-on event in the town centre

IT CAPPED a great year for Halesowen and kick-started the festive season in Dudley, as Halesowen became the first town in the borough to switch on Christmas lights. Hundreds of people arrived in the town centre to welcome in the festive season on Saturday.

And it is the best display for years after traders got together to buy new digital lights to revamp the town's



Zac Tolley, aged 5 from Stourbridge, meets Father Christmas during the festive lights event in Halesowen



Crowds fill the streets as hundreds turn out to mark the start of the festive season in Halesowen

festive illuminations. A stage show with dancers, such costumed characters as an angel and a robot, plus a personal appearance by Father Christmas, put smiles on faces.

Halesowen and Rowley Regis MP James Morris said it followed the success of the Halesowen in Bloom entry this year as local organisations continue to stimulate growth in the town.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Vodafone rescues five jobs at shop

AN EMPTY shop in Stourbridge, which was a Phones4U store, has been taken over by Vodafone.

The move saved five jobs with the staff at the shop being a mix of former Phones4U employees and newly hired staff.

Stourbridge MP Margot James said: "We have seen lots of new business start up in Stourbridge and it is particularly good when we get a new retailer in the town, especially one as big as Vodafone."

Vodafone UK's 2014 capital investment programme is the largest in its history, since it was created in the 1980s, with work well underway to deliver indoor and outdoor coverage using 2G, 3G and 4G services to 98 per cent of the UK population.

Group competes in £50k public vote

A GROUP which helps ill Black Country youngsters and their families, has been shortlisted for a TV competition that could see it win £50,000.

The regional competition, run by the Big Lottery Fund, will see each group showcase its work before viewers vote to choose the winners.

Murray Hall Community Trust, at Sedgley Road West, Tipton, would use the money to fund its Dream Room community hub.

Another group in the running is Family Action based in Wednesbury.

The People's Millions will be screened from Monday to Wednesday on ITV Central.

RYDALE

CELEBRATING OVER 29 YEARS

ULTIMATE SECURITY GUARANTEE
Rydale take security very seriously
Guaranteed high security on all products
Full details on request



Repair Service available

**WINDOWS & CONSERVATORIES, ORANGERIES,
PORCHES, FASCIAS & SOFFIT BOARDS
SUPPLIED & FITTED TO ALL AREAS
ACROSS THE MIDLANDS**

You can be sure you have made the right decision!

**WINDOW, CONSERVATORY, PORCH,
FASCIA & SOFFIT NEWS**

How has Rydale built up an excellent reputation?

It's simple customers' satisfaction and quality. The quality of Rydale's product, the quality of all Rydale personnel and the unbeatable service given to the public is second to none. No wonder Rydale has so many satisfied customers, just look at the facts. Every window and conservatory is custom made to the most rigorous quality standards you will find in the industry. No other company in the area has more experience and know how than Rydale, that's why we have been in business for more than 29 years. Rydale Windows security features make our windows super safe. We have a wide range of products on display at our purpose built showrooms and factories situated in Long Lane, Halesowen.

Our window and conservatory advisors are available in our showrooms weekdays from 9.00am to 5.30pm and Saturday 9.00am to 4.00pm. At Rydale we feel that it is very important to see products on display before you make your final decision to purchase.

We invite you to come into our showrooms to view all our products available, the showrooms are here for you the customer. At Rydale we do not take any deposits or stage payments, you only pay when the installation has been completed. Rydale has been a trusted brand in our area for over 29 years. If we give you a guarantee we will always be here to honour it.

Can that be said of any other company in the area? Rydale also offer a Supply Only service on all products including free delivery.

**Autumn Sale
NOW ON**

Visit one of the largest conservatory and window showrooms in the UK

Finance Available
At Rydale we care about the customer, spend your money wisely

Massive Discounts
on all orders placed now for January installation

OPEN WEEKDAYS 9 AM TO 5.30 PM, SATURDAY 9 AM TO 4 PM, SUNDAY CLOSED

Long Lane, Blackheath, Halesowen, B62 9LS
www.rydalewindows.co.uk



FREEPHONE 0800 917 6060

IN MY VIEW



with Mark Andrews

TWENTY-FIVE years ago this month, the final phase of the Merry Hill centre opened, an occasion which has surely transformed the shopping habits of the West Midlands in a way that could never have been envisaged at the outset.

Almost instantly, Marks & Spencer closed its branches in both Dudley and West Bromwich, lured by the free rates and easy parking of the new out-of-town centre.

Initial reports suggested a 70 per cent fall in the number of people shopping in Dudley town centre, and slowly, but surely, it has also affected town and city centres further afield.

A quarter of a century on, its legacy is still a matter for debate.

Some people love the warm, all-weather malls, others hate the devastating impact it has had on town centres which have been there for hundreds of years.

The majority, though, I suspect, do not feel that strongly one way or the other. They simply take the view that if that is where Marks & Spencer, British Home Stores or Sainsbury's is, that's where they will go.

According to Dudley Council leader, Councillor David Sparks, "Merry Hill enabled Dudley to look Birmingham in the eye," and on that point I really have to disagree.

Dudley cannot, and never has been able to look Birmingham in the eye, certainly not within living memory, and realistically, it is not going to any time soon.

However, Merry Hill is probably the reason why Dudley can no longer look Wolverhampton or Walsall in the eye, either.

And for that I will always be very sad.



WEST Midland clergyman the Rev Alan Fraser, who drives a petrol-electric hybrid vehicle which is exempt from road tax, observes that he still has to go on to the DVLA website to not pay the road tax he does not owe.

He adds: "There is a range of (non) payment options, although I apparently will be charged £2.50 if I decide to not pay by credit card."

"So, if I have understood this, I am to not pay for a tax disc that I now won't get sent."

And if he does not comply, presumably he will be sent a final demand to not pay his road tax.



AYLI visits Aynuk in hospital, and is concerned with his friend's state of despondency about his condition.

"Chayer up, aer kid, yo' do' cum 'ere to die," says Aylil.

Aynuk replies: "Yo' ay' rung, aer kid, I day cum in 'ere to die. I cum in six wikk ago."



An artist's impression of the planned mosque on land of Hall Street including 52ft high dome and 62ft minaret — the existing mosque on Castle Hill is now too small

The saga of town's mosque heats up

Muslim community leaders have won permission but will their mosque be built? **PETER MADELEY** reports

IT is a controversial long-running project that has provoked heated debate and divided communities.

Now, after a seven-year stand-off, planning chiefs at Dudley Council have given Dudley Muslim Association the green light to develop land off Hall Street to build a large mosque just outside Dudley town centre.

In the wake of the planning committee voting in favour of the scheme, a call has been made to also re-build community relationships in the town.

Dr Khurshid Ahmed, director at Dudley Muslim Association, which put forward the plans, said it was now time to heal wounds that had opened up in the town as a result of the mosque debate.

Benefit

He said: "Sadly relationships within the town have been messed up and it is about time we all started to rebuild."

The development will see a 52ft-high mosque with a 62ft minaret and also includes a 120-space two-storey car park, a sports centre, an enterprise and education centre and a community centre.

The Dudley Muslim Association says the project will be a boost for the whole town with non-Muslims able to benefit from the new education and sports facilities too.

But the decision to give the proposal the green light has resulted in an angry response from large sections of the community, with concerns raised over the lack of parking, increased traffic congestion and the design of the buildings.

One of those who objected was Archie Pugh, aged 80, from Dudley. He said the design of the mosque would not fit in with the town's architecture and the increased traffic would cause gridlock around the site.

"The application did not comply with guidelines that stipulate the need for a locally sensitive design," he said. "In my view the whole thing looks grotesque.



The site earmarked for the new mosque and community centre complex in Dudley

They are saying up to 600 people could attend the mosque at any one time which to me means the resulting traffic congestion will be catastrophic.

"It is absolutely disgraceful that it has passed."

Councillor Keiran Casey, vice-chairman of Dudley Council's Development Control Committee, opposed the plans. He said: "This has been very badly handled from the start. The vast majority of people have no problem with any community having a place of worship. My issue is that the site has the potential to set up the town. It is crying out for redevelopment that could support people in terms of industry and employment."

Others have questioned whether the facilities at the centre will be available for all members of the community.

Dozens of protesters were locked out of last week's meeting as all spaces in the public gallery were filled. Darren

Ward, aged 43, from Tividale, was one of the many who were left out in the rain. He said: "I got here at 5pm and couldn't even get inside. This is a bad decision for the town."

Many in the Muslim community say the town has been crying out for a new place of worship to replace the cramped Dudley Central Mosque in Castle Hill.

Shakeel Ahmed, aged 40, from Kates Hill, said: "The town's Muslim community has grown a lot in the last 20 years and the mosque in Castle Hill is nowhere near big enough. People have a right to a place of worship."

Proposals for a new mosque in the town were first put forward in 2007. On that occasion the bid was thrown out because the authority wanted to preserve the land for development that could boost employment.

But an updated version of the scheme returned to the table in September. A

total of 370 letters of support and a petition for the application with 1,718 signatures were sent to the council, while 885 letters were sent in opposing the project.

Councillor Qadar Zada, chairman of the development control committee, said he was satisfied the facilities would benefit the whole community.

However, the plans for the land, which used to be the Nuttall factory and warehouse, could still be halted by a High Court hearing early next year over whether the land should revert to council ownership.

A judge previously ruled the council could reclaim the land but the association has lodged an appeal over the decision.

Building work is on hold as leaders urge council bosses to negotiate a conclusion in the wake of plans being given the go-ahead.

Planning committee members voted five to three in favour of the proposals. But Dudley Council is bidding to buy back the land through the High Court — a move Dudley Muslim Association is appealing against.

Dudley Muslim Association director Dr Khurshid Ahmed said he was 'delighted' the planning application had finally been approved but stressed the High Court appeal needed now be resolved. He is now urging council bosses to 'reflect' and hold talks.

Dr Ahmed said building work would be on hold until the resolution of the High Court case due early next year.

"We hope that the council will now reflect on its position in light of the planning committee's decision and try to reach an amicable agreement so that we can put this whole saga to bed," he said.

"While the court case is happening, no work can take place. We would like to be able to negotiate. The ball is in their court."

Councillor Patrick Harley, leader of Dudley Council's opposition Conservative group, said the authority was wrong to give Dudley Muslim Association permission to build on land 'they technically do not own'.

He said: "Whatever the rights and wrongs over the mosque issue it seems bizarre the council hadn't argued for the legal action to be concluded prior to this coming before planning. The council could be left with a huge legal bill to foot because of this."

WEEK IN POLITICS



with Daniel Wainwright

WE need to talk about Europe. I say that knowing full well that for people who follow politics at the moment it seems as though we talk about little else.

But the farcical scenes in the Commons over the European Arrest Warrant show how toxic it is proving to be to the Tories.

Not that we need much more proof of that, of course. The by-election won by a Tory MP-turned-UKIPper and coupled with the likelihood of a repeat in Rochester should have made it abundantly clear by now.

MPs turned up to vote thinking they were going to get a say on the European Arrest Warrant itself. Instead the motion put before them was for just 11 of 35 measures that the coalition government wanted to opt into and the warrant was not one.

The Conservatives would not have wanted to face another rebellion by Eurosceptic backbenchers. But, after all these years it should have been abundantly clear to the whips that anything with the word 'Europe' in it is not going to go down well with the likes of Stone's Sir Bill Cash or Aldridge-Brownhills MP Sir Richard Shepherd.

The latter, retiring at the election, made his feelings abundantly clear: "At the heart of this is a misconception about what this House represents... my over long time in this House of Commons has led me to understand the growth of executive arrogance is unsupportable."

Even reading the words one can hear the weariness in his voice. Sir Richard has been an MP since 1979. He's been rebelling on Europe since Maastricht.

Labour's shadow Europe minister is Wolverhampton South East MP Pat McFadden. He pointed out that there was actually more than enough support from the majority of the Tories, Liberal Democrats and Labour to vote the warrant through. Now Labour has decided to debate and vote on it as part of an Opposition Day on the eve of the Rochester by-election.

As far as Mr McFadden and Labour are concerned, as well as the Tories in favour of it, it is a means by which this country has managed to deport 1,000 foreign criminals in a single year and succeeded in the successful return of people wanted by our own authorities. One of those was Hussain Osman, part of a botched attempt to bomb London in 2005. It also brought back Jeremy Forrest, a teacher who fled to France with a pupil.

The arguments against include concerns over the ability of other EU member states to demand the extradition of British citizens without sufficient evidence.

There are various legal experts, civil liberties groups and others now turning it into a political football. Maybe we should have been worried about it, maybe not. But if they won't even debate it, the Government can't blame people for drawing their own conclusions.

**up to
40%
off
selected products**

- Old Buildings Removed
- Asbestos Disposal
- Base Laying Service
- Free Quotations

Huge Range Made To Measure Service Lined & Insulated Options Quality At Competitive Prices

Wooden Sheds



Fitted prices from
**6ft x 4ft £239
7ft x 5ft £269
8ft x 6ft £299**

Concrete Garages



Fitted prices from
**Single Garage 16ft x 8ft £1499
Double Garage 16ft x 16ft £2999**

Summer Houses



Fitted prices from
**7ft x 5ft £575
8ft x 6ft £685
8ft x 8ft £745**

Log Cabins



Perfect garden rooms
all year round!
**Wall Log 44mm T&G
Double Glazed
Insulated Options**

Show site (open 7 days): Tildasley Street,
West Bromwich B70 9SJ (Next to Staples)

Visit our website:
www.bettabuildings.co.uk

Call us now:
0121 553 4682

We make it

Tourism is the answer for town centre

CONCERNING the report about Dudley being in a list of the worse towns to shop. Everyone blames the Merry Hill Centre for Dudley's downfall, and it had an effect, but the town's councillors have failed it as the shops and rates are too expensive.

Judy Foster, councillor in charge of regeneration, said there is nothing wrong with the town. Well, maybe at lunchtime as there are food outlets. But you cannot purchase a book since WH Smith closed. The market is behind schedule and most of the stalls empty.

J HADLEY
Dudley

Old drivers get taken for a ride?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Dudley Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

E-MAIL

Dudley.chrons@expressandstar.co.uk

Hippodrome issue needs intervention

I'VE been impressed by the efforts of Jonathan Ken-drick and by the Friends of Dudley Hippodrome but I can't help wondering why the onus has been placed entirely on them.

Hasn't anyone on the council got any ideas about how to rescue this languishing icon and turn it back into a going concern? Where's the council's 'business plan'? Why's it all down to an entrepreneur and a community group to come up with a viable package of measures?

The council may be holding back its application to demolish the building, but its leaders could well intend to reduce it to a pile of rubble unless either of the other two parties can give them a very good reason not to.

R WARRINGTON
Tipton

Councils have a depressing tendency to reach for the wrecking ball when confronted with tricky problems that require creative solutions.

In the case of the Hippodrome, I hope that ultimately the people at the top of Dudley Council can resist this crude impulse.

I don't doubt it would be the easier option but it would mean throwing a once brilliant local asset down the drain. The attitude of our councils towards places of cultural importance when they've fallen on hard times is often crucial to their survival.

A decision by Wolverhampton Council to save the Molineux Hotel entirely changed its fortunes.

J GRAINGER
Stourbridge

A decision by Wolverhampton Council to save the Molineux Hotel entirely changed its fortunes.

These songs have done more than stand the test of time over the years.

R WARRINGTON
Tipton

ARE there any motorists as frustrated and angry as I am at the work going on in Stallings Lane?

We have had to put up with this disruption now for weeks.

Last Friday it took four changes at the traffic lights to get over, and then join a stop and go area, which happens every day.

Roads were blocked in four directions, buses didn't turn up or were late, teenagers couldn't get to college and school, people were late for work.

Did anyone check the level of traffic on this road on a normal day before plans were passed for Lidl to be built?

Lord help us when the store opens.

I wonder how long it will be before there is an accident?

S BROUH
Dudley

Songs just not praise worthy

THERE is nothing which gives me more pleasure than hearing a good hymn, which makes Songs of Praise one of my favourite programmes.

Recently Michael Ball sang two of my favourite hymns, Abide with Me and Guide Me O Thou Great Redeemer.

Michael ruined both hymns by singing versions which I had never heard before and don't want to hear again.

These songs have done more than stand the test of time over the years.

J GRAINGER
Stourbridge

LADIES ONLY GYM

EXERCISE FOR FREE*

INCH LOSS & WEIGHT LOSS

UNTIL 2015 AND
DROP A DRESS SIZE
FOR CHRISTMAS



A different approach to
Health, Fitness & Slimming

www.gymophobics.co.uk

NO
INDUCTION
FEE



Find us on Facebook

51 HIGH STREET,
HALESOWEN B63 3BG
Tel: 0121 448 1743

Results may vary & are dependent on attendance & physiological make up. Weight loss is achieved with a low calorie controlled diet. Always seek medical advice prior to commencing an exercise regime. Terms & conditions apply.

Quality Kitchen Makeovers Ltd

Replace Your Tired Kitchen,
Bathroom or Bedroom with a
MAKEOVER...
from the Bespoke Specialists
Replace Only What's Needed



NO SALESMEN!

Did you know that, 80% of
our customers are retired?
Find out why they trust us
for yourselves...

40% OFF
Doors and Drawers
Before 30th November

PLUS 10% OFF
All New Kitchens,
Bedrooms, Bathrooms
Book your no obligation Quote Today!!
0121 550 4821
Offers cannot be combined

All types of
Flooring supplied
and Wet Wall
Solutions for
Bathrooms

Range of
Kitchens,
Bedrooms and
Bathrooms to suit
all budgets

OVER 100 DOOR STYLES
AVAILABLE IN ALL
COLOURS.

WORKTOPS AVAILABLE
STANDARD, QUARTZ
ENCORE AND WOOD.

ALL CABINETS AND
WARDROBES BESPOKE
MADE TO
MEASURE SIZES

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED



Homeowners...

Looking to sell?

Enhance the prospects of selling your property - stunning results for a minimum outlay

Just moved in?

Let us help to transform your property into a dream home

Decided to stay?

Fall in love again with your home - Revamp your kitchen, bedroom or bathroom and allow us to show your home's true potential

Bring us your dream pictures and we will bring them to life

CUSTOMER SATISFACTION GUARANTEED
www.qkm.org.uk **WE WILL NOT LET YOU DOWN!!**

**The largest working Luce kitchen
in the Midlands at**

149 Cinder Bank, Netherton, Dudley, DY2 9BL Tel: 01384 671909
Open Mon - Fri 9am - 5.30pm, Thursdays 9am - 7pm, Saturdays 10am - 4pm

Head Office & Showroom
Oak Lodge Buildings, Furnace Hill
Halesowen B63 3LZ
0121 550 4821
Open Mon - Fri 9.30am - 5.00pm
Sat 10.00am - 1.00pm

Stourport Showroom
33 High Street,
Stourport-on-Severn DY13 8BE
01299 877718
Open Mon - Sat 10.00am - 5.30pm
Thursday 10.00am - 7.00pm



At QKM
We are dedicated to offering our customers
the finest service within the
home improvement market

THE GUILD
OF MASTER CRAFTSMEN
Membership No A120074

'We have customers who would be more than happy to
show you the excellent standard of work'

Appliances: Neff,
Bosch, Rangemaster,
Belling, Baumatic,
Hotpoint, Stoves and
many more

Franke Sinks 50 Year
Guarantee

What our customers say!
"...it looks like a palace..."
"...definitely recommend
'Quality Kitchens' to our
friends and family..."
"...totally professional from
beginning to end..."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Overtime impact on holiday pay

MIDLAND manufacturers could be affected by the Employment Appeal Tribunal's decision that overtime must be included in holiday pay according to Crowe Clark Whitehill.

Johnathan Dudley, managing partner of the Oldbury office of the national audit, tax and advisory firm, said: "It is likely that this decision will affect all manufacturers, especially if the decision is significantly backdated."

If there is to be significant backdating, then the decision will almost certainly be appealed, causing uncertainty for what could be several years. Any uncertainty could also affect corporate finance."

The decision means that all people on voluntary overtime could claim.

Village celebrate saving library

CELEBRATIONS have taken place to mark the start of a new partnership which has saved a village library from closure.

Hagley Parish Council is stepping in to take over Hagley Library's running and management costs while Worcestershire County Council continue to provide the service with the help of volunteers.

It is hoped Hagley Library would move to a proposed 'community hub' in the village at a later date.

There had been fears the village library could close and be replaced with a mobile service as part of county council plans to shave £1.9million of budgets over the next three years.

Health trust rakes in more than £2m parking charges

A HOSPITAL trust raked in more than £2 million from parking charges last year.

The figures cover income received from patients and staff at City, Sandwell and Rowley Regis hospitals in the financial year 2013/14, and do not include fines. The amount dwarfs income received by some other hospital trusts.

The Royal Wolverhampton Hospitals NHS Trust brought in around £1m in 2013, while Walsall Hospitals NHS Trust made around £600,000 the previous year.

Sandwell's figure has come under fire from an MP who has accused the trust of employing desperate measures in a bid to bolster hospitals' coffers.

The figures, from a Freedom of Information request, show a total of £1.3 million was spent on parking by patients and staff at City Hospital, in 2013/14, while £809,121 was spent at Sandwell and Hospital and £34,089 at Rowley Regis Hospital.

Overall £1.4m was spent by patients and visitors and £681,599 was spent by staff.

West Bromwich East MP Tom Watson said: "For many years I have been critical of the high parking charges at Sandwell and West Birmingham NHS Hospitals Trust. As a result of central government cuts, hospital bosses seem desperate to find income any way they can – even if it means charging chronically sick people who need to park in order to receive treatment."

"Clearly, the Trust needs a proportion of the income it generates to pay for the up-

Volunteer Eric is still helping at 90



'Never ignore people in a crisis' — Eric Reaney MBE is volunteering at a Black Country food bank at the age of 90

HE has spent most of his life helping others and has no intention of calling it a day.

Eric Reaney, from Brandhall, Oldbury, who turned 90 on Friday, has helped at Smethwick Food Bank for three years.

When he informed Coral Musgrave, volunteer co-ordinator at the food bank, of the milestone, she wanted to find out if Mr Reaney was the oldest volunteer in Smethwick.

He said: "Coral was surprised when I told her about my 90th birthday but I

have been volunteering for a very long time. I don't know if I am the oldest but it's certainly something to think about.

I currently work as a greeter for the food bank. I check people have their tokens, treat them to a cup of tea or coffee and make them feel welcome while they wait for their food.

A lot of people are very short of money right now and are living in very poor circumstances. There are also so many people without work.

"We receive donations from a num-

ber of churches around Smethwick, who have been very helpful."

Outside of the food bank, which is held at the Holy Trinity Church, Church Hill Street on Tuesday and Fridays, Mr Reaney has been a member of the British Red Cross for 50 years. In 2004 he was given an MBE for services to Young People and to the community in Oldbury, after organising church youth clubs for 30 years.

He added: "You should never ignore people who find themselves in a crisis."

A MAN was badly injured after falling 32ft down a cliff face at a Dudley beauty spot.

He was rescued from Wren's Nest National Nature Reserve in what fire crews described as a 'dramatic' rescue as the man was in a precarious position on a ledge.

The man, in his 20s, was taken to Russells Hall Hospital with neck and back injuries.

West Midlands Ambulance Service said a 'medical episode' had led to the fall, which happened at 1.30pm on Saturday.

A stretcher was lowered on ropes to rescue the man, who was on a ledge by the Severn Sister caverns. Fire crews said the man was precariously positioned around 80ft up the cliff face. The rescue operation took around an hour.

Watch commander Ross Gordon said: "He was in a very precarious position. It was a severe cliff face and the incident was pretty dramatic."

"Ambulance crews were there first and requested help. We're not sure what had happened to lead to the fall and the man was on his own. He was drifting in and out of consciousness and was pretty badly injured."

Crews made their way up tracks on the cliff face before lowering ropes and rescuing the man, who was taken by ambulance to Russell Hall Hospital.

MAKE THIS CHRISTMAS

GET ALL YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING, FROM TREES, BAUBLES, WRAPPING PAPER, DECORATIONS TO CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR ALL THE FAMILY.. INCLUDING PETS!

WE'RE SURE YOU WILL FIND SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE IN OUR HUGE 49,000 SQ FT WAREHOUSE!

WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR VISIT

A SEAFLO CHRISTMAS

OPENING HOURS: MON-FRI 10 AM-4 PM SAT 8 AM-3 PM
SEAFLO, WATERFALL LANE, CRADLEY HEATH,
WEST MIDLANDS B64 6PU
0121 559 8580 - seaflouk@live.co.uk

Did You Sleep Alright Last Night?

If not, buying a New Bed from

Dreamland

Will be the best thing you've done for a good night's sleep.

Large Stocks
with guaranteed
Christmas delivery

✓nbf APPROVED

Our fully trained staff will ensure you get the right advice, the right bed and at the right price...



Full range of adjustable beds
COME ALONG FOR A DEMONSTRATION TODAY



LATEST DESIGNS IN SOFA BEDS FROM JUST £499

Specialist bed stockists:



Find us at:
Mill Street,
Brierley Hill
01384 74166

LARGE FREE CAR PARK AT REAR OF STORE
Little Cottage Street,
DY5 1RG

OPEN
Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm
Sat 9am-5.30pm
Sun 11am-4.30pm

Supporters of Mary Stevens Hospice



Girl group Little Mix lit up Merry Hill centre



The X Factor pop stars Little Mix join Bars & Melody and Sam and Mark switch on the festive lights at Merry Hill. Little Mix were on hand to give Merry Hill shopping centre's Christmas lights switch on the X Factor.

Thousands turned out to see the nation's favourite girl band make sure the festivities went with a bang.

The Salute singers were joined by a range of other performers including Britain's Got Talent runners-up and rap duo Bars & Melody.

The event was hosted by TV presenters and Free Radio's Sam Nixon

get everybody excited and ready for Christmas with a bit of festive cheer."

This week, the centre was revealed to be the best shopping centre in the West Midlands in a poll, beating the Bullring.

Dudley town centre's festive lights will be switched on this Saturday. Dudley Mayor Councillor Margaret Aston and Father Christmas will start the countdown at 5pm. The Christmas tree in Stone Street Square will be the centrepiece.

Festive lights will be switched on in Stourbridge on November 29 and Brierley Hill on December 6.

GUTTER AND ROOF CLEANING



Are your gutters full of leaves and moss?

Down pipe blocked?

Roof full of Moss and Algae?

Do they overflow with rainwater?

Can't access/clean gutter over conservatory?

Why not get the experts in?

WE CAN SOLVE THE PROBLEM

At BTF Cleaning Services we specialise in cleaning, repairing fitting gutters and all upvc.

We have the latest methods and technology to access and clean awkward to get to gutters and roof lines

BTF
CLEANING SERVICES LIMITED

www.btfcleaningservices.co.uk
Narrow Lane, Halesowen,
West Midlands. B62 9ND



TEL/FAX NO: 01384 568345 MOB: 07979 211302

BIGGEST MIDLANDS MANUFACTURER

22 Years
Experience

HIGH SPEC
Windows & Conservatories

SAVE £££'S
on Energy Bills this Christmas with our 'A' Rated Windows with
70% OFF!

**6 WINDOWS
& 2 DOORS**
Only £1,795*



CONSERVATORIES



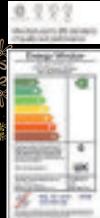
3m x 3m £4,999

4m x 3m £5,999

4m x 4m £6,999

LIFETIME GUARANTEE ON DOUBLE GLAZED UNITS!

Come to our factory and showroom to get to look at our work first hand



HIGH SPEC
Windows & Conservatories

FREEPHONE 0800 007 5312

Open 7 days a week Mon - Fri 8am - 6pm Sat & Sun 10am - 4pm

FACTORY & SHOWROOM - ROOD END ROAD, OLDBURY, B68 8SF



CE

www.hispecwindows.co.uk

*Terms & Conditions Apply

FENSA
Registered Company

New bridal store ready to book in

COMMERCIAL FEATURE

AFTER a nine-year stint based within Beatties, House of Fraser, the bridal department has finally decided to go it alone.

Adele Louise Bridal boutique will be opening its doors from November 21 in newly refurbished premises at 3 School Street, Wolverhampton.

Adele Edwards is the owner of Adele Louise Bridal and she has been based within House of Fraser in Wolverhampton with her bridal business, Bella Sposa, but Adele has now taken the decision to open up her own shop.

"Having our own salon means we can offer more flexibility to our customers," explains Adele.

Champagne

Adele Louise Bridal will offer customers late-evening appointments for both fittings and viewings, as well as special events including a VIP weekend which will take place on November 22 and 23.

The weekend will be a ticket-only event, with a champagne reception, canapés, the amazing designer Ian Stuart collection, as well as members of the Ian Stuart team, a solo opera singer, Mrs Cup and Saucer offering vintage afternoon tea, Rock Paper Scissors showcasing its collection of wedding stationery, California Hair Extensions, plus a fashion show.

Bespoke Creations and now Blooms formal hire have agreed to go along too.

Tickets are on sale for £5 each.



Visit Adele Louise Bridal at School Street, Wolverhampton

There will be many offers on during the VIP weekend including discounts, veil offers etc.

As well as an extensive range of designer wedding gowns, which includes Justin Alexander, Ian Stuart, Mori Lee, Ronald Joyce and Enzoani, Adele Louise Bridal will also showcase a range of bridesmaid gowns, prom dresses and designer evening gowns. It also stocks Richard Design veils and tiaras and Rainbow shoes.

Adele Louise Bridal is a premier bridal store based within the heart of Wolverhampton. It offers the full pack-

age for brides including tailoring your wedding gown to fit you perfectly, packaging your gown for destination brides, and now it is offering additional services including nails, hair and bridal make-up.

Brides who prefer VIP treatment will be able to hire the whole shop for the evening to include Fizz and a nibbles from a menu of fabulous food.

For more information contact Adele and the team on 01902 399900 or info@adelolouisebridal.co.uk or visit www.adelolouisebridal.co.uk

Warming to the autumn fashions

Say goodbye to those summer days – it's time to enjoy what the autumn fashion scene has to offer

THOSE long hot days may now seem a distant memory but never fear there are some real treats in store on the autumn fashion scene.

These combine warmth, comfort and colour – bang up to date with the popular tartan look, wraps to keep out those chills and boots that combine style with comfort.

No need to trek too far to find the fashion, just pop into a nearby New Look store or go online and you can order them to be delivered into the store.



For formal look go for a brushed texture coat – £44.99 or wrap up warm with this tartan coat – £54.99



Red check mini skirt – £17.99 or go for the flowery look with this top – £22.99



Colourful and cosy wrap – £15.99



Easy colour to match up – £64



Tan buckle ankle boot – £69.99

Rest assured that all existing customers will receive the quality and service that we have been proud to supply within House Of Fraser, giving you more flexibility with opening hours to suit you.

**ADELE LOUISE
BRIDAL**

NEW VENUE!

We are delighted to announce that we are holding an Ex Sample Gown Sale at our wonderful new bridal lounge...

3 School Street,
Wolverhampton
WV1 4LF

Email: info@bellasposabridal.co.uk
Telephone: 01902 399900

Ex Sample Gown Sale

WEDNESDAY 26TH NOVEMBER
UNTIL SUNDAY 7TH DECEMBER

TOP DESIGNER GOWNS
Up to 60% OFF Original RRP

Ring us to make your appointment 01902 399900

WORCESTER BOSCH SPECIALIST WORCESTER BOSCH

Gastek
Solutions

24/7 Emergency Call Out

WORCESTER accredited installer

WORCESTER BOSCH SPECIALIST

NEW GASTEK HOME SAFE PLAN

- Free Annual Boiler service
- Taps and Toilets
- Unlimited Call Outs
- All Parts And Labour Included
- Internal & External Drains
- Gas & Water Supply Pipes

PLUS MOOR !

ALL FROM JUST £9.99 PER MONTH

t/c apply

CALL TODAY AND SPEAK TO THE TEAM

01384 560 856

- Boiler Services
- Landlord Checks
- Full Central Heating Systems
- Boiler Swaps and Conversions
- Bathroom Installations
- Power Flushing
- Gas Appliance Installations
- All Domestic Plumbing Work

NEW SHOWROOM NOW OPEN

Unit B15 Anchor Business Park, Dudley DY2 9AF

Office Open 8am-6pm Monday-Friday 8am-4pm Saturday

Tel: 01384 560856

info@Gasteksolutions.co.uk

www.gasteksolutions.co.uk

WORCESTER
DOMESTIC
INSTALLER

ALL MAJOR CREDIT & DEBIT CARDS ACCEPTED

Mastercard

Visa

American Express

Discover

Maestro

Two taken to hospital after crash

A MAN was injured when he was involved in a collision with a car which hit the wall of a pub in Cradley Heath.

The man, believed to be in his 40s, and the driver were both taken to Queen Elizabeth Hospital for assessment and treatment.

The incident happened in Cradley Road just after 9pm on Tuesday.

The car hit the wall of the Wizard and Glass Pub on Cradley Road.

A West Midlands Ambulance Service spokesman said: "Crews arrived to find a pedestrian had been in collision with a car, which in turn had collided with the wall of a public house. A man believed to be in his forties was treated for serious pelvic and leg injuries. The driver of the car was treated for a head injury and was also taken to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital."

Church hosts a festive fair

A CHURCH has announced plans for its Christmas Fair.

St Peter's Church, off Church Road, in Cradley, will hold the fair on Saturday, November 29, from 12pm to 4pm.

There will be some original gift stalls with the emphasis on arts and crafts goods at the popular annual event, as well as raffles and tombolas.

Refreshments will also be available during the event.

FOCUS ON CRADLEY & CRADLEY HEATH

Cigarette probably caused death of homeless man

A HOMELESS man who died in the back of a burning car probably did so as the result of a discarded cigarette, a coroner has ruled.

Senior Black Country Coroner Zafar Siddique said he was satisfied there was no foul play regarding the death of 54-year-old Mark Palmer.

He was found after firefighters were called to deal with a burning Peugeot 306 car in a service road opposite Cradley Heath railway station, the inquest at Smethwick Council House was told.

Firefighters attended the scene at around 9.20pm on May 10, and police were called after Mr Palmer's body was found in the back of the vehicle.

Fire investigator Lee Richards, of West Midlands Fire Service, said the blaze had started inside the car.

Mr Palmer was found lying across the back seat of the car, and beneath him was a cigarette lighter. There were also cigarette butts and empty beer and cider cans.

There was no evidence of any accelerant being used.

Mr Richards added that Mr Palmer's position indicated he had made no attempt to get out of the car.

Pathologist Dr Nicholas Hunt said Mr Palmer had chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, exacerbated by pneumonia, which meant he had difficulty breathing.

Burns and smoke inhalation that Mr Palmer suffered during the fire were the most likely cause of death. He added that Mr Palmer's lung condition was so severe that it would have killed him if it remained untreated.

Detective Inspector Warren Hinds said the car had not been used for some time and its owner David Towler was planning to scrap it.

When scrap merchant Jamie Danks came to remove the car, the doors were locked and there was a man asleep on the back seat.

Mr Danks and Mr Towler agreed they would leave the car for the night, and consider what to do the next morning.

Mr Siddique said: "I'm satisfied this was an accidental death, on the balance of probability due to a dropped cigarette."

Schoolchildren visit restored war graves



Pupils from Cradley CoFE Primary School putting wooden crosses in the grounds of St Peter's Church in Cradley

TOURS for schoolchildren are being conducted around war graves which have been recently restored at a church in Cradley.

Norman Catton began restoring the war graves at St Peter's Church eight years ago, discovering 27 graves and memorial headstones with the earliest

dating back to the Boer War. Mr Catton, from Cradley, said: "The graves were in an absolute state. It was like a jungle."

Three classes from Colley Lane Primary School, Cradley CoFE School and Caslon Primary were invited to a remembrance service at the church.

Mr Catton said: "I went around and spoke to the schools about the significance of the poppy and Remembrance Day."

Schools interested in sending their children on a tour of the war graves should contact Mr Catton on 07864 102096.

Accordion night in aid of hospital

AN ACCORDION maestro who set up his own club for fans of the instrument is organising a Bavarian-theme charity event in Cradley Heath to raise money for the Birmingham Children's Hospital.

Barry Smith, of Rowley Regis, had the idea for the event after his grandson was born with health problems.

Mr Smith said: "My grandson was born in April. He had quite severe problems with his heart and had to have several operations. The hospital saved his life and I wanted to do something to say thank you."

Mr Smith, who has been playing since he was 11, started the Black Country Accordion Music group.

The group aims to raise about £1,000 at Cradley Heath Liberal Club from 7.30pm tonight (Thursday). Tickets are £10 with a buffet, call 0121 559 4620.

Bid to find Mr Gill's relatives

RELATIVES of a man who has recently died are being sought by the Black Country coroner.

Stanley Gill died at his home in Halesowen Road, Cradley Heath on November 9. Inquiries have failed to trace any member of the family of the 79-year-old.

Anybody who is related to the deceased man or know somebody who might be is asked to contact Coroners Officer Elaine Huckfield on 0845 352 7483 as soon as possible.



Servicing Made Simple

**NOVEMBER
SPECIAL OFFER £99 MOT AND SERVICE**



Chapelhouse Autocentre
Forge Lane, Cradley Heath
West Midlands, B64 5AL

Tel: 01384 569222
chapelhouseautocentre.co.uk



Forge Lane
Opposite Cradley Railway Station

Your first stop for everything Homebrew !

+ specialist
REAL ALE & CIDER
OFF-LICENSE

**Personal service
and advice**

**BEER, WINE AND
CIDERMAKING**



**27 HIGH STREET, CRADLEY HEATH
OPPOSITE TESCO Tel: 01384 620238**

star extra Christmas gifts overseas

Send gifts to loved ones in Australia, New Zealand, Canada and Mainland USA. Packing and delivery costs are included, plus the option to personalise your greeting.

Australasian Hampers

Australian Wine - £47.75

New Zealand Wine - £47.75

- Hardys Brut Reserve Sparkling Wine, 750ml
- Hardys Semillon Chardonnay, 750ml
- Hardys Shiraz Cabernet, 750ml

Australian Food - £47.75

New Zealand Food - £47.75

- Hardys Brut Reserve Sparkling Wine, 750ml
- Whittlings Christmas Fruit Cake, 500g
- Bolands Blueberry Mac, Shortbread 75g
- Ashley Mints Sticks, 80g
- Walkers Shortbread Rounds, 100g
- Walkers Nonsuch Hazelnut Toffee, 100g
- Twinnings English Breakfast Tea, 10 pkt

Australian Luxury - £54.75

New Zealand Luxury - £54.75

- Hardys Brut Reserve Sparkling Wine, 750ml
- Whittlings Christmas Fruit Cake, 500g
- Whittlings Christmas Pudding, 400g
- Napoli Hazelnut Creme Filled Wafers, 120g
- Carrs Water Crackers, 125g
- Figaro Olives with Pimentos, 142g
- Mackays Cranberry Sauce, 227g
- Gardiners Matt Whiskey Fudge, 150g
- Stern's Pfeffernusse Traditional Gingerbread Cookies, 200g
- Soletti Pretzel Sticks, 80g
- Twinnings English Breakfast Tea, 10 pkt
- Vittoria Espresso Coffee, 50g

North American Hampers

(Excludes Alaska and Hawaii)

USA Food - £47.75

Canadian Food - £47.75

- Twinings English Breakfast Tea (20s)
- Rademaker Chocolate Mint Sticks, 75g
- Royal Edinburgh Shortbread Fingers, 125g
- Borges Green Olives with Pimento, 125ml
- Carr's Water Crackers, 125g
- Walkers Toffee and Pecan Biscuits, 150g
- Weston's Traditional Fruit Cake, 600g

USA Luxury - £54.75

Canadian Luxury - £54.75

- Baxter Chicken Broth, 540ml
- Royal Edinburgh Shortbread Fingers, 125g
- Waterbridge Occasions Choc Toffee, 150g
- Waterbridge Fudge Butter, 200g
- Waterbridge Silimix Dark Mint, 75g
- Bassett's Liquorice Allsorts, 200g
- McVities Digestives, 400g
- Robertson's Scotch & Orange Marmalade, 250ml
- Emilia's Blueberry Chutney, 250ml
- Carr's Water Crackers, 125g
- Weston's Traditional Fruit Cake, 600g

Should a listed item become unavailable, a substitution of equal or greater value will be made

Orders Close Monday, Dec 8

Special Offers

Christmas Stocking

A cloth Christmas stocking filled with confectionery goodies. Something for the children to hang on the end of the bed at Christmas.

Cost £16.00

New Year Bubbly

(Available to Australia and New Zealand only)
A 750ml bottle of award winning Omni Sparkling Wine with a greeting tag which reads 'For you to celebrate the New Year'

Cost £18.00

These special offers can only be purchased with the hampers listed and sent to the same address

Order online at www.overseasgifts.com/starextra (prices may vary due to current rates of exchange)

Or send this form along with a cheque or card details to:

Hamper Offer
Promotions Department
Express & Star/Shropshire Star
Queen Street
Wolverhampton WV1 1ES

Please make cheques payable to MNA Ltd.

Please note we do not accept cash payments

Tick the boxes above to indicate your selection and quantity

Separate forms are required for each recipient – please attach together

Send the hamper(s) as indicated in the boxes above, which total £ _____

Please include Christmas Stocking(s) @ £16.00 each £ _____

Please include New Year Bubbly(s) @ £18.00 each £ _____

I enclose total remittance for £ _____

Visa/Mastercard number / / / / Security no _____ Signature _____

Expiry date / / Security no _____ Signature _____

DELIVER TO: Title.....First Name.....

Surname.....

Address (No P.O Box addresses).....

Town/City.....

State.....

Post/zip code.....

Country.....

Daytime No.....

A post/zip code and daytime telephone number must be included

Your message (Please use CAPITALS - max 15 words).....

Santa's gone on safari at popular animal attraction

THEY are more used to soaring through the jungle than a winter wonderland but a group of parrots are settling into their new home at West Midland Safari Park.

Santa Claus himself was on hand to welcome the 52 Rainbow Lorikeets parrots to the Bewdley attraction last week.

A new enclosure, called Lorikeet Landing, has been created to feature during the park's Santa Safari events which started on Saturday for the festive season.

The new exhibit is an all-weather, purpose built exhibit that is located in the attraction's Discovery Trail.

The breed are a species of Australasian parrot that is native to Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, New Caledonia, the Solomon Islands, Australia and Tasmania.

But while temperatures outside

will plummet over the coming weeks, the bird will be keeping warm with temperatures kept at a steady and very pleasant 18C (64F).

Safari park spokeswoman Wendy Jack said: "These beautiful free-flying birds have brightly coloured red, green, blue, yellow and orange feathers along with a curved red bill. And, unlike some bird species, it is hard to distinguish between the males and females."

"This really is a case of all things bright and beautiful. It's the perfect opportunity for visitors to get up close to see these lovely little birds in this brand new walk-through exhibit that has been themed as a tropical paradise."

Santa Safari is open weekends to November 23 then daily from November 26 until Christmas Eve.



Father Christmas and his feathered friend launch the Santa Safari at West Midland Safari Park

Nine out of 10 are now happy with 111 service

NINE out of 10 patients who used the non-emergency NHS helpline were satisfied with it since it was handed over to West Midlands Ambulance Service (WMAS), a report on the past years has shown.

During the previous year WMAS has received in the region of 850,000 calls into the service.

People can call 111 for advice when seeking help with non-emergency and out-of-hours health matters 24 hours a day.

It is a marked turnaround from when it was first introduced in April 2013, replacing the former NHS Direct, and call centres run by different providers were struggling to cope.

The non emergency helpline was broken up into 46 contracts and NHS Direct itself was left in deficit and forced to close. The ambulance service took it over in the West Midlands in November 2013.

Figures from a patient survey show 91.3 per cent were satisfied with the service received, 77.1 per cent of which were very satisfied. Just 3.4 per cent were dissatisfied. There were also 88.8 per cent of users who said they were likely to recommend the service.

Rachael Ellis, 111 lead commissioner West Midlands, said: "Sandwell and West Birmingham Clinical Commissioning Group is pleased to report that the service is stable and that call volumes are increasing as patients realise the benefits of the service which delivers quick, responsive advice and assistance. We are seeing month on month growth in the service."

There is no doubt that the public of the West Midlands now have access to

City welcomes return of German Market

FIVE million people, 200 stalls and £90 million for the regional economy – Birmingham Frankfurt Christmas Market leads the way for festive attractions.

Covering nearly a mile stretch, running from The Bullring to Victoria Square and on to a big wheel at Centenary Square, the annual market has become a festive favourite. It opened for the 14th year last weekend and five million people are expected to have visited it by the end of the six-week run on December 22.

The smell of bratwurst (sausage) fills the air, and German lager and gluhwein will be glugged by the gallon as people peruse the wooden chalet-style stalls to buy sweet treats, continental decorations or even a reindeer hide.

What started out as a speculative pilot project, encompassing just 10 stalls, has grown into the centrepiece of the West Midlands' Christmas calendar — and what is believed to be the biggest German market outside Germany.

Widow died due to a rare side-effect

A WIDOW from Quarry Bank died in hospital following an operation to examine the cause of her abdominal pain, an inquest heard.

Assistant Black Country coroner Angus Smillie ruled that Joyce Thomas died from natural causes as her death was caused by a known side-effect.

The inquest heard that Mrs Thomas, an 83-year-old retired bookbinder from Church Street, had been admitted to Russells Hall Hospital on September 2 as a day-case patient for an endoscopic procedure after she had complained about intermittent abdominal pain.

Dr Sharan Shetty, consultant gastroenterologist at Russells Hall Hospital, said the procedure was not successful because Mrs Thomas was suffering from a hernia. A further examination revealed a ruptured spleen.

She was transferred to the intensive therapy unit and died on September 11.

Dr Shetty said damage to the spleen was a known side-effect of this kind of endoscopy, although it was rare, occurring in just one in 6,000 cases.

WILLIAM & SONS

EXTENDED FOR ONE FINAL WEEKEND!

CLEARANCE

MASSIVE SHOWROOM & WAREHOUSE RE-ORGANISATION

THIS FINAL WEEKEND!

"We're clearing large quantities of lounge, dining, living and bedroom furniture!"

- ALL STOCK MUST GO!
- THIS WEEKEND ONLY!
- DOORS CLOSE SUNDAY 5pm!

Fabric...



Leather...



CLEARANCE £999
STEED TOWCESTER
 Small sofa, easy chair & scatter

OVER 75% OFF TO CLEAR!
 Was £4069 Save £3070

CLEARANCE £859
SALOTTI ITALIA CAIRO
 Luxurious cream sofa in CAT 20 real Italian leather

60% OFF TO CLEAR!
 Was £2159 Save £1300

CLEARANCE £689
BUOYANT HEMMINGWAY
 Large sofa & chair in Anna beige fabric

LESS THAN HALF PRICE TO CLEAR!
 Was £1489 Save £800

CLEARANCE £1599
HTL FERUCCI
 Large twin power motion sofa, small sofa plus reclining chair all in LEATHER

OVER 62% OFF TO CLEAR!
 Was £4249 Save £2650

CLEARANCE £399
ROM FIONA
 Contemporary accent chair & stool set

60% OFF TO CLEAR!
 Was £985 Save £586

CLEARANCE £69
SICILIA LEATHER
 Footstool in CAT25 NO307 walnut leather

75% OFF TO CLEAR!
 Was £281 Save £212

CLEARANCE £849
ZONE CARMARGUE
 9 ITEM contemporary light oak dining group

dining table, 6 x chairs, sideboard & mirror

OVER 68% OFF TO CLEAR!
 Was £1959 Save £1670

CLEARANCE £589
HARRISONS' BRONZE
 Luxury king-size divan set with end storage drawer

HALF PRICE TO CLEAR!
 Was £1179 Save £590

CLEARANCE £19
STOCKHOLM LIVING
 Model QLS08 lamp table

OVER 70% OFF TO CLEAR!
 Was £69 Save £50

CLEARANCE £99
SILENTNIGHT LUCIO
 Miracol Double Mattress

OVER 70% OFF TO CLEAR!
 Was £349 Save £250

CLEARANCE £179
MORRIS MONTROSE
 Model MER112 bookcase

OVER 55% OFF TO CLEAR!
 Was £399 Save £220

CLEARANCE £349
KAYDIAN WENDY
 King-size upholstered bed frame

LESS THAN HALF PRICE TO CLEAR!
 Was £849 Save £500

CLEARANCE £75
MARK WEBSTER
 Canterbury contemporary light oak lamp table

70% OFF TO CLEAR!
 Was £249 Save £174

CLEARANCE £199
NOLTE MOBÉL SALERNO
 Tall 5 draw chest

OVER 63% OFF TO CLEAR!
 Was £549 Save £350

CLEARANCE £199
BAKER FURNITURE
 Carson LS13 'Dingly' styled bookcase

60% OFF TO CLEAR!
 Was £499 Save £300

CLEARANCE £269
KINGSTOWN SEVILLE
 Model SGTC091 large 7 draw wide chest

60% OFF TO CLEAR!
 Was £669 Save £400

CLEARANCE £259
CAXTON DOMINION
 Model DS1150 wild oak style entertainment unit

65% OFF TO CLEAR!
 Was £209 Save £500

CLEARANCE £49
MORRIS ORLY BEDROOM
 Model ORL127 wall mirror

Over 75% OFF TO CLEAR!
 Was £209 Save £160

Dining...



Beds...



Living...



Bedrooms...



Alstons

BUOYANT

WADE

Myer's

RelaxBreeze

steed

HTL

ZONE

Harrison

In your home for Christmas, plus MASSIVE DISCOUNTS available on all special order items!



WILLIAM & SONS

All offers are subject to availability. E&OE

Level Street
Merry Hill, Dudley
West Midlands
DY5 1UA
T. 01384 77444
www.williamandsons.co.uk

From Dudley
M5 J2
Levisham
Brierley Hill
The Embankment
Merry Hill Shopping Centre
Retirement Rd
Alltys

FINAL CLEARANCE TIMES:
Friday 10-5.30pm
Saturday 10-6pm
Sunday 11-5pm

**Have You
Been
Injured
in an
Accident?
NOT
your fault?**

Your claim
will be handled
by friendly
specialist
solicitors who
are local to you.

**NO WIN
NO FEE**

**Middleton Dummer
SOLICITORS**

**FREE HOME VISITS
0121 544 4788**

Please contact:
Rob, Adam or Angela at
High Tree's House, 1-9 Pool Lane, Oldbury, Warley, West Midlands B69 4QX

**BOOK A
SURPRISE VISIT**

from Santa Mickey & His Elf to deliver a personalised letter from Santa, a balloon & a gift for your child right to your door on the 22nd, 23rd December & Christmas Eve all for just £25.00

CALL 0121 448 0606

Party Smart - For every celebration! Cards, balloons, gifts, venue dressing & much more!

105 Kent Road, Halesowen, B62 8PB
Email sales@party-smart.co.uk
Book now as limited spaces available

Party Smart
For Every Celebration

Safely access your loft!
FULLY FITTED FROM
£245

We provide a convenient and safe way to access your loft.
Each ladder has a 10 year parts guarantee and can be installed in approx 2-3 hours.
We offer a loft boarding service if required at an additional cost.
PHONE TO ARRANGE A FREE QUOTE.

Manufactured to ISO 9002 Standard
Telephone: 01952 282152
Mobile: 07817 431505

JENKS'D'LADDERS
The Local Distributor & Installer for
For more information visit: www.stira.co.uk

**DOUBLE TIME DOWN TO...
T.W. RYDER LTD**
ARMY & NAVY STORE
Genuine Ex-Army clothing and footwear

Also stockist of children's camouflage clothing + safety gear + Ex army bedding + work wear, overalls + waterproofs, camping equipment, leisure wear, tents, sleeping bags & gas cookers now in stock. Specialist suppliers for all Duke of Edinburgh & Cadet equipment

Open 6 days • Closed Sunday

Telephone: 0121 472 1402
325-327 Harborne Lane, Birmingham, B17 0NT
www.twrydersinbirmingham.co.uk

VIDA HAIR & BEAUTY

Join us for our spectacular Christmas Shopping Evening Thursday 27th Nov 7pm - 9pm Treatment Demonstrations New GHD Curve - Decleor Prolegene Lift Shellac Nails - Microdermabrasion Facial Great lengths Hair Extensions Birmingham Children's Hospital raffle prizes donated by - GHD, OPI, WELLA, DECLEOR

10% off all treatments booked on the evening Goody bags with all purchases Complimentary drinks and nibbles

DECLEOR Shellac

Book now to avoid disappointment
870b Wolverhampton Road, Oldbury B69 4RS
Tel: 0121 552 6777
www.vidahairandbeauty.co.uk

Isn't it time for a New Garage Door?
With the ESSATI SALE, the decision's made so much easier

Our top of the range electric 'remote controlled' insulated aluminium rolling garage door -operated by hand held 'keyring' handset is currently reduced from a RRP of £250 - to an amazing £699 inc VAT & fitting.

**NOW JUST £699!
INCLUDING VAT & FREE FITTING**

Price includes:
◆ Remote Control & keyring handset
◆ Manual override for use in a power cut
◆ All doors conform fully to EU safety directives
◆ Extremely secure auto-locking system
◆ White as standard, other colours available - ask for details
◆ Full 12 month warranty ◆ Bottom rubber weatherseal
◆ Price is for any sized single sized door up to 8ft 6" wide
◆ Double skinned aluminium with foam insulation

CALL 01245 396910
This special offer includes free fitting.
The offer on our website does not include free fitting.
To benefit from this offer you should call 01245 396910
www.essatigaragedoors.co.uk



Come and find out who we are.

After another summer of record breaking exam results we are throwing our doors open to external sixth form candidates. It's a great opportunity to meet our students and staff, tour our sixth form facilities and find out why Forge students get the best results.

Sixth Form open evening
Wednesday 26th November 5pm-7pm

For more information call 01384 566598 or visit www.ormistonforgeacademy.co.uk

/ormistonforgeacademy @ormiston_forge

Third meet under belt for the WI

Bewdley WI

On October 13 the second meeting was held and more than 60 women attended but at least half of them had not attended the first meeting.

The intent for this meeting was to get the structure in place and find a name for the WI.

After a vote Bewdley WI gained the most so Bewdley it is.

After the business had been carried out the potential members were offered a selection of craft activities to try while they enjoyed tea, coffee and cakes.

There was silk scarf painting, an easy starter suitable for the Christmas meal, decorating a serviette for Christmas, and felt finger puppets.

The meeting closed having put in place a small starter committee to get the proceedings underway. Brenda Wright and Cheryl Hatton will share the role of President and Sue Humphries will put together a programme for the first few months of 2015.

The third meeting was held on November 3.

The meeting began with a welcome letter from the National Federation Chairman, Janice Langley which was read out by Brenda and Cheryl. The speaker for the meeting was Diana Campbell who has had an incredibly interesting career in television.

There are now 28 paid up members who are planning their Christmas meeting on December 1. To take part call 01905 641658 or email fiona@wfwi.org.uk.

Members enjoy the Harvest luncheon

West Midlands Federation

WEST Midlands Federation hosted a Harvest luncheon for all guild members on Wednesday October 8 at Wollaston Village Hall.

The meal was prepared and served by federation committee members.

Chairman Margaret Tew opened proceedings by welcoming the guests.

Following a very enjoyable meal the Chairman introduced the entertainment for the afternoon. Pete Dunn, Marylyn and Brian, aka The Jazzyatics performed songs to suit all tastes. Chairman Margaret Tew gave a vote of thanks to the group.

The raffle was then drawn and six lucky members won prizes.

Hospitality secretary Betty Davis gave a vote of thanks to the federation committee for all their hard work and for helping to make the occasion a huge success.

The final event of 2014 will be the Christmas celebration in St Thomas' Church, Stourbridge on December 13. Programmes are now available at the Church.

Getting ready to enjoy festivities

Kingswinford TG

Committee

mittee as Sylvia had other commitments. Barbara White came forward.

On November 28 The Wednesday Club will go shopping at Touchwood. The December meeting will be a Knit & Natter session with cheese and wine.

The Scrabble group will meet on November 27 and December 11.

The ramblers will not ramble in December.

John Moberly came to complete his Talk Do You Remember the 1940s? The evening was very much enjoyed and he was thanked on our behalf by Chris Moy.

Josie Smith was thanked for the floral arrangement of poppies. Enid Fennell won the raffle prize.

Sign of a good talk on pubs

Black Country Society K-ford Branch

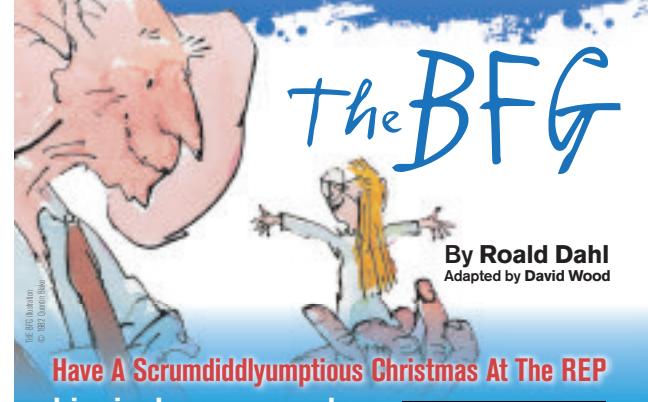
pies will be served at the end.

Talks are open to members, friends and non-members with a small charge to cover expenses of £1 and £1.50 respectively.

All meetings take place in the Church Centre, The Village, Kingswinford, at 7.45pm.

26 NOVEMBER TO 24 JANUARY

Birmingham Repertory Theatre Company presents



Have A Scrumdiddlyumptious Christmas At The REP

birmingham-rep.co.uk

0121 236 4455

ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

Registered in England 259910 Charly No.223660

THE REP
Birmingham Repertory Theatre

CHRONICLE



CREATE YOUR UNIQUE PERSONALISED CHRISTMAS GIFT.
IF YOU APPEARED IN THIS WEEK'S CHRONICLE WHY NOT ORDER THE PICTURE AS A PHOTO, CANVAS PRINT, MUG, GLASS COASTER OR MOUSEMAT? GO TO PHOTOSFORSALE.EXPRESSANDSTAR.COM OR CALL (01902) 319444 (MONDAY TO FRIDAY, 9AM TO 5PM)
Please note: Only selected prints available and copyright restrictions apply. Photos available to view and order online the next working day after publication.

Part of Express & Star Ltd

MNA Media

Teacher of the year Kerry goes to top of her class



Award winner – assistant headteacher Kerry Poole, aged 32 from Stourbridge, has been named Teacher of the Year

A TEACHER from Stourbridge has been voted the best in Britain.

Kerry Poole, who teaches religious education at Wolverley CE Secondary School, won the Teacher of the Year in a Secondary School title in the national Pearson Teaching Awards. She beat more than 20,000 nominees to scoop the accolade.

Miss Poole, aged 32, was described by the judges as 'a truly exceptional teacher whose endless enthusiasm, dedication, commitment and energy inspire students and colleagues alike'.

The assistant headteacher at Wolverley was nominated by deputy head Rebecca Hawthorne.

She was amazed that she had been chosen for the award, adding: "I couldn't believe it, because we have so many brilliant teachers here at Wolverley."

"I have done a lot to do with the Church of England side of the school, and I think that is important. I think it was because we try to give youngsters a good foundation and a full holistic experience to prepare them for life, it is not just about lessons and grades."

Miss Poole, who started at Wolver-

ley as a trainee 10 years ago, said she loved teaching RE as it helped children ask questions about their place in the world. Wolverley head Bryn Thomas said: "Our motto is 'Ambition Unlimited', so being able to inspire our students to aim higher than they would have done before coming to the school is something that is extremely important to us. Kerry has been an inspiration to many of our students."

Miss Poole was reunited with her inspirational English teacher, Caroline Hoddinott, now headteacher at Haybridge High School, at a surprise celebration.

moden

FURNITURE DIRECT

- ▶ LEATHER STORAGE BEDS from £99
- ▶ MEMORY FOAM MATTRESSES from £139
- ▶ BED & MATTRESS DEALS from £179



We won't be beaten on price! www.modernfurnitudirect.co.uk

Buy online

46 LONG LANE, HALESOWEN, WEST MIDLANDS, B62 9LS.
TELEPHONE: 0121 227 5043

Hasbury Windows Ltd

AUTUMN OFFERS

it has to be HASBURY

Probably the best windows in town!

DON'T BUY FROM ANYWHERE ELSE
UNTIL YOU GET A QUOTE FROM US

Inlitec Front Door in White From £450 incl. fitting



FRONT DOOR STANDARD SPEC:
• Inlitec 70mm single doors only
• Lever/lever handle and hook lock
• Fitted with white furniture
• Left hand or right hand opening
• Panel Thickness: 28mm
• Choice of 6 white panel doors

PANEL DOOR-HARDWARE FEATURES:
• PAS 24 security testing on flag hinges
• 3 hinges have carrying capacity of 120kg
• Longer lasting performance on hardware
• Locking system - exclusive to Camden & one of the most superior on the market



Inlitec Back Door in White From £395 incl. fitting



BACK DOOR STANDARD SPEC:
• Inlitec 70mm single doors only
• Lever/lever handle and hook lock
• Supplied with Monaco half panel (top pane glazed)
• Panel Thickness: 28mm
• Left hand or right hand opening
• White furniture/hardware

TRADE ENQUIRIES WELCOME

6 Flat Windows & 2 Doors

From £2999
Includes Fitting & VAT



Sealed Units Replacement Available From £10
We will beat any genuine written quote'

All work carries a full 10 Year insurance backed Guarantee

Your local well established business offering top quality products and service
★ No payment until completion
★ Call us now for a great deal on your new windows and doors
★ Visit our showroom
★ Deal direct with the owner
★ If you want quality, value and service it 'has to be Hasbury'!

Excellent service from start to finish. Reliable and friendly.

Lovely job, fitters made no mess! Would definitely recommend again.

MR & MRS LEWIS

HALESOWEN

LOWER GORNAL

9 HALESOWEN ROAD, HALESOWEN,
WEST MIDLANDS B62 9AA
0121 421 7001 / 0121 421 2104 / 01384 78796

FENSA
Registered 30179

SHOWROOM OPEN:
Mon-Fri 8 am-5 pm
Sat 10 am-2 pm
PHONELINES OPEN:
9 am-9 pm

It's the best time of year to fit new windows!

FreeAds

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

*Advertise any item **FREE** up to the value of £250, simply fill out the details below or book online at www.expressandstar.com/bookanad

ADVERT DETAILS - (ONE WORD PER BOX, 12 WORDS IN TOTAL)

ADVERT 1			
ADVERT 2			

Name: _____ Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Tel No: _____

Please send to: ClassifiedAds, Express & Star, 51-53 Queen St, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES.

IT'S ABSOLUTELY FREE

*Private advertisers only, no guns, pets, or livestock. Limited time only.
Free adverts are published within 7 days of receipt, in-paper and online and are limited to 3 lines maximum

Buy Local, Sell Local
01902 317878

Classified Ads

Davies Blinds

- Free Quotes
- Free Fitting
- Child Friendly Fittings
- Made to measure curtains
- 5 Year Guarantee

Autumn Sale
20% OFF ALL BLINDS
Limited time only

Call Today
0121 624 2053
07951 394056

www.daviesblinds.co.uk



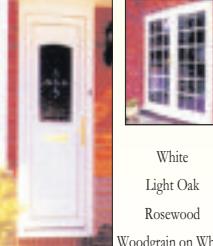
A-Zee Fix

DOUBLE GLAZING INSTALLATIONS & REPAIRS

Telephone: 01384 259761 Mobile: 07769 975841



- ❖ 70mm Internally Glazed High Security Frames
- ❖ 28mm Pilkington 'K' Units
- ❖ Document L Compliant
- ❖ Shoot Bolt Locking
- ❖ Sight Line Glazing
- ❖ Secured By Design PAS023 / PAS024



Repairs and Upgrades
Insurance Work
Failed Units
Broken Locks
Door Panels
Letter Boxes
Sticking Doors
Handles and Mechanisms

ALL WORK GUARANTEED
PHONE TODAY FOR A FREE QUOTATION

FENSA
Registration No. 23529

Colvin is manic and marvellous

Gerry Colvin Band Newhampton Folk Club

GERRY Colvin is like 50s skiffle icon Lonnie Donegan spliced with manic comedian Lee Evans.

Along with a great talent for music and an unstoppable string of stories and observations it makes him a great entertainer with a personality almost too big for the packed upper room of the Newhampton Inn, Whitmore Reans, Wolverhampton.

Colvin is an engaging raconteur and spent much of the time between his enthralling songs claiming he would not do the very thing he was doing, talking.

He was joined on stage by three excellent musicians Lyndon Webb on guitar, Trish Keelan on accordion and Jerome Davies on double bass. Colvin, who has been around for years and is lauded on both sides of the Atlantic, straddles the folk, country, jazz and

Americana genres. His versatility is seemingly endless moving from folk songs such as Alcohol and Me to the Latin beat of South American Dream.

At times Colvin, originally from Barrow in Furness, is pure theatre however he does get serious too but without getting heavy with songs such as The House of the Setting Sun which is about mental illness. One thing is for certain with Colvin, you get your money's worth.

Danny Farragher

MJ show was a real live Thriller

Thriller Live, Grand Theatre

WHAT a thriller! When it comes to Michael Jackson music, I am sure the packed Grand Theatre would agree, you just can't beat it.

High energy, amazing voices and brilliant choreography this show had everything. The cast gave their all as they took us through the legendary journey that was Michael Jackson's life.

The lead vocalists were excellent, none more than Samantha Johnson, whose powerful voice filled the auditorium, and Alex Buchanan with his version of She's Out of My Life.

All the favourites were there, I'll Be There, Blame It On The Boogie, Dangerous, Black or White and of course Thriller with particularly good versions of They Don't Care About Us, Earth Song and Smooth Criminal.

With little encouragement needed the audience joined in some of the songs and they did not need a second call before they were on their feet. A fantastic show and not to be missed.

Sue Attwater



Send in the clowns — a scene from the strange and surreal Slava's Snowshow

Slava's indoor snowstorm blasts the senses in this unique show

Slava's Snowshow, Birmingham Hippodrome

BLIZZARD conditions hit Birmingham when this wonderfully weird show returned to the Hippodrome, as it marked its 21st year on tour of the world. To describe this production as a clown show with a wintery theme is to sell it short. It is more Salvador Dali than Billy Smart.

Russian clown Slava Polunin, who no longer performs in the show, has devised a unique spectacle. He has done for clowning what Cirque du Soleil did for circus as a whole but with a ripple of grim humour. It starts with a clown with his head in a noose.

The combination of dream imagery, haunting music and slow-burning comedy is punctuated by showstopping set-pieces. These include a cobweb that envelopes the audience and an indoor snowstorm that remains one of the most sensational moments of stagecraft in modern theatre.

The show ends with giant bouncing balls being released into the auditorium. The clowns watch the audience become children, whatever their age, playing in Britain's biggest ballpit. The only people left unhappy must be the Hippodrome's cleaners, faced with mounds of paper 'snow' to clean up.

Leon Burakowski

star extra TRAVEL

LONDON THEATRE

Choose your show, price band and how you want to travel*



Coach inclusive breaks – Two days

Selected weekend departures

Saturday Night from £139.95 Dine and Dance from £149.95

Take in a top West End show and have some free time in London. For the Dine and Dance option see the matinee performance before heading back to the hotel for dinner and disco (conditions apply). For the Saturday Night option see the evening performance. For both breaks the price includes a theatre ticket, overnight stay in a four-star outer London hotel, with full English breakfast (plus dinner for Dine and Dance options). Pick-ups offered are Dudley, Shrewsbury, Telford, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

Rail inclusive breaks – Two or three days

Departures most weekends

Saturday Night Theatre from £149.95

Choose a London hotel and see a Saturday evening performance. Rail travel is standard class with the option to upgrade. Departs Saturday morning/early afternoon from Birmingham New Street, Shrewsbury, Stafford or Wolverhampton, returning on the Sunday afternoon/early evening to give plenty of free time for shopping and sightseeing.

Theatre Showstopper from £209.95

Departs from Birmingham New Street, Shrewsbury, Stafford or Wolverhampton on the Friday morning returning Sunday afternoon/early evening. Standard class travel is included with the option to upgrade, plus two nights stay at a London hotel of your choice (hotel supplements may apply). Includes a top priced ticket for the Friday evening performance.

*The "from" price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure for details.
Single rooms subject to availability – supplements apply
Organised by Omega Events Ltd (ABTA Y590X).

For a theatre brochure call the promotions team on (01902) 319999
(Mon to Fri, 9am to 5pm), or go to expressandstar.com/starextratravel

Please read brochure/web page for full information plus terms and conditions

Toy appeal is judged to have the X Factor



Simon Cowell lookalike Andy Monk with Matt Cook as Santa and Brett Harris, owner of Blaze Hairdressing

A CHRISTMAS fundraising appeal has been launched and it has been judged to have the X Factor by Simon Cowell look-a-like Andy Monk.

The copycat Cowell gave a resounding 'yes' to Dudley Council for Voluntary Service's Operation Santa scheme which provides toys to children living in poverty in the borough.

Last year Brett Harris, owner of Blaze Hairdressers in Kingswinford, collected and donated more than 2,000 toys, games, books and selection boxes towards the appeal.

Andy said: "Brett has been a fantastic supporter of the Operation Santa appeal for several years and each year he surpasses himself with both the number and quality of the toys and games he collects and donates."

"They make a huge difference to thousands of underprivileged kids in Dudley borough."

The appeal has now run for more than 20 years and in 2013 a record-breaking 5430 children received a gift.

To offer a donation call (01384) 573381.

Praise for attempt to take gun off farmer

A FARMER shot himself when fears of losing his livelihood drove him to depression, an inquest heard.

David Fletcher, 59, told a neighbour 'I need help' before taking his own life with a double barrelled shotgun at his farmhouse near Stourbridge.

It is believed Mr Fletcher had financial worries and was concerned about the threat of TB among his cattle at Heron Gate Farm in Enville. Tests after his death showed that his livestock were clear of the disease.

His neighbour Mark Henderson was praised by West Mercia Police and the coroner for his bravery when attempting to take the gun from the farmer. Mr Henderson tried to get the gun off Mr Fletcher after he fired it at his car.

He told the inquest that he came across Mr Fletcher when his truck was blocking a lane early on July 10.

He asked if he was alright and Mr Fletcher replied 'no, I need help' before reaching for his 12 bore shotgun and firing at the back of Mr Henderson's car. Mr Henderson got out of the car and approached Mr Fletcher who shot again, toward nearby

By Simon Stone

trees. Mr Fletcher then attempted to take his own life, but the gun was not loaded.

The inquest heard Mr Fletcher walked into his house, saying: "There isn't going to be any farm."

Another neighbour, Chris Nott, arrived to help but then both men heard a gunshot from inside the house.

Firearms officers from West Mercia Police found Mr Fletcher dead with a gunshot wound to his head.

The inquest, which recorded a verdict of suicide, was told Mr Fletcher had been suffering from depression.

Police told the hearing that Mr Fletcher had his firearms licence revoked in 1999 and had not registered the double barrel shotgun.

Hawthorn Windows



A family run business with majority of work coming from recommendations

Why pay more?
Deal direct with the owners, no salesmen, and see the difference.
Doors from £450
Composite Doors from £630
Conservatories from £4500
Ring for more details

Specialists in Door, Window, Porch and Conservatory Installations

Composite Doors from £630

Wide choice of colours available

Misty units replaced

WE OFFER GREAT DEALS ON ALL UPVC PRODUCTS

Quality products at quality prices

10 year guarantee

Faulty door locks and window hinges replaced

We will beat any quote

FENSA registered

Unit 1, Shenstone Trading Estate, Bromsgrove Road,
Halesowen, West Midlands B63 3XB
Tel: 0121 559 6320

UNITED CARPETS
WOODFLOOR & BEDS

HALF PRICE
SALE

TODAY & ALL WEEKEND

PLUS AN EXTRA
25% OFF
in the Ultimate Collection



Plus
Guaranteed
FITTED
IN TIME
FOR
Christmas

on all orders placed before 22nd December

Plus **EVERY CARPET FITTED FREE***

**FREE DELIVERY FREE MEASURING
FREE ESTIMATES + WE'LL BEAT ANY QUOTE!!**

*When you buy the equivalent size of our Airstep or Treadmore underlay.
Stair surcharge applies. **Terms & Conditions apply.

A hard-wearing versatile Berber available in a range of modern colours.

Was £5.97

**NOW
£3.99
m²**

WITH
FREE
FITTING
We're famous for it!

**FAMOUS
FREE
FITTING***
ON THIS CARPET

Stain resistant twist will add style to any room in your home in a choice of beautiful colours.

**UNBEATABLE
VALUE
£5.97
m²**

WITH
FREE
FITTING
We're famous for it!

**FAMOUS
FREE
FITTING***
ON THIS CARPET

Baroness Memory 4'6" Double mattress and base set
Memory Foam Mattress with sprung interior which reduces pressure points on the body for a restful night's sleep.

**WAS £399
NOW
£299**

PLUS
FREE
HEADBOARD & DRAWERS

**BRITISH MATTRESS
COMPANY LTD**
Sleep well for less

PLUS
100s of
Laminates,
Vinyls and
Rugs!
Take Away
Today!

And don't
forget all
carpets
fitted in
time for
Christmas!

132 Wellington Road, Dudley,
West Mids DY1 1UB Tel: 01384 259966

Opening Hours: Mon-Sat 9am-6pm, Thurs 8am-8pm, Sun 10am-4pm

UNITED CARPETS
WOODFLOOR & BEDS

www.unitedcarpetsandbeds.com or call Free on 0800 344 442

Products subject to availability. *Free fitting applies when you buy the equivalent size of our Airstep or Treadmore underlay. Stair surcharge applies. Free fitting offer does not apply to laminate wood or vinyl flooring. Stocks vary from store to store.



@unitedcarpets



Find us on FACEBOOK
UnitedCarpetsandBeds



One of the earliest photographs of the Netherton group, formed 90 years ago



Trefoil Guide Margaret Jackson, 82, shares her memories



60 years ago — The Netherton group pictured in the 1950s



A photograph from the Netherton group's early days



Netherton Brownies past and present get together for the 90th anniversary reunion party

Fond memories for Brownies and Guides

CAMPING, crafts and cooking are among the fun activities celebrated by a Guides and Brownies group as members past and present mark its 90th anniversary.

Grandmothers, mothers and daughters were among those who gathered at a party in honour of the 1st Netherton Guides and Brownies, which has a long tradition of family membership.

The pack was registered in 1924 although the current leaders say that it was probably running for some time before official records were set up by the organisation.

For some 60 years it had close links with St Andrew's Church and met in a building known as Church House, in Hill Street. Meetings were held on Thursday evenings until the 1980s when the sessions relocated the group's current home in the scouts' hut off Cradley Road.

Brown Owl and Guide Captain Rachel Piper says: "We were invited by the 1st Netherton Scouts to join them

MEMORY LANE

By Deborah Hardiman

in their premises. We held the party and reunion because we wanted to do something to celebrate the brownies being here continuously for 90 years. That is a great achievement and milestone.

"We sent out invitations to past and present members of the guides and brownies and the leaders. Lots of people who were members down the years came to join us, which has been wonderful. Some of them are well into their 80s but they wouldn't have missed it for the world."

"They were reminiscing and telling stories about their camping trips. It was nice for them to remember and it was nice for them to meet the brownies who are with us now."

There are currently 24 brownies who meet on Wednesdays and a group of 20 girl guides.

Activities at the reunion included displaying boards of memorabilia, including badges, blankets and old photo-

graphs of outdoor adventures, parades and meetings held over the decades.

Among the gems is a picture of the group camping at Astley Burf, Stourport, in 1925. Some are taken in the 1930s featuring the girls meeting the Queen's uncle the Duke of Windsor, who was King Edward VIII for just under a year before he abdicated the throne to marry Wallis Simpson.

Also on display were photographs from the 1950s when former Guide Leader Olywyn Grainger was in charge. She ran the unit until 2000 when Mrs Piper, aged 43, took over the reins. Mrs Grainger, now 73, was among the guests at the celebration.

Former members recalled taking part in the traditional challenges, such as outdoor camping and singing 'Magic Coins'. "The previous members used to sing it," said Mrs Piper. "They still all remember the words."

Brownies has always been a popular activity for young girls and even today parents still put their children's names down on our list from as young as aged two to secure a place in the group."



Margaret Barford with daughters Rachel and Angela



A picture of Netherton Brownies in the 1980s from the group's 90th year anniversary exhibition

Midland UPVC Windows and Doors Ltd



We are a family run business having over 35 years of experience in Manufacturing uPVC Windows and Doors and deliver the highest quality home improvement products and services.

We believe that each home is unique and we're committed to helping all of our customers to make the most of their living area.

Because we specialise in such a wide range of home improvement products, we can help you to truly revitalise your home, whatever your requirements. We pride ourselves on the precise manufacturing and rigorous testing that we apply to everything we provide, from double glazed windows to a full conservatory project. Our confidence in the quality of our products is reflected in our comprehensive long-term guarantees and supplemented by our commitment to promoting energy efficiency and greener living with our products.

NO Salesmen

When you choose Midland Upvc Windows and Doors Limited you're choosing home improvements that are guaranteed to look great, protect and enhance your home and last a lifetime!

Christmas Hamper on Offer

Christmas Hamper
with all orders placed and fitted between November 6th and December 12th.

Limited one coupon per order, void or photocopies not accepted, non-transferable after dates given. Coupon must be handed to representative at time of order or contract. No postal copies accepted. Coupons accepted with orders between 6th December and 12th December. Customers will be contacted when the hamper is ready to collect; last collection date is December 12th.

DATE: NAME:
ADDRESS:

CONTRACT VALUE:
CUSTOMER SIGNATURE:
REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE:

SAVE MONEY ON YOUR FUEL BILLS WITH OUR ENERGY RATED WINDOWS

UPVC SALE 6 FLAT A RATED WINDOWS ANY SIZE

£1599.00 fitted

Buy Direct from your local manufacturer

FANTASTIC NEW UPVC DOOR RANGE

BEDFORD
£599 FITTED

KENT
£599
FITTED

CAMBRIDGE
WHITE ONLY
£599 -
LEVER HANDLE -
CLEAR/PATTERN OR CLEAR GLASS

YELLING
£450
FITTED

QUEENS
INVERTED
£399.00
FITTED

NEEDINGWORTH
£450 FITTED

Special offer PVC Door from £385 Fitted

Investment in training is key

A BUSINESS leader in the Black Country says businesses need to invest in training to move forward.

The latest Workforce Survey results, published by the British Chambers of Commerce, highlight that 92 per cent of businesses across the country have identified a skills shortage in at least one key area.

Skills are in demand for leadership and management, planning and organisation, languages, computer literacy and creativity.

Responding to the survey results, Black Country Chamber of Commerce President, Ninder Johal, said: "Businesses recognise that investing in training can drive higher productivity and increased profits. However, the findings make it clear that investment in leadership and management skills are crucial to enhance strategic thinking, foster innovation and motivate employees. This is an area where the Black Country Chamber of Commerce is at the forefront."

Dress up as Santa for hospital charity



Clerk Emma Hancock ready for Santa Day with Karen Phillips

A CHARITY based at Russells Hall Hospital in Dudley is challenging people to combine festive fun with fundraising to help raise money for a good cause.

The fundraising campaign by Dudley Group NHS Charity hopes to raise money for the maternity department at the hospital.

Those who take part will be asked to dress up as Santa and collect sponsorship for Santa Day on Friday, December 5.

Karen Phillips, Fundraising Manager, says: "All the money raised will go to the Make our Patients Smile Appeal which helps to improve our patients' experience while they are being treated by us. It costs just £10 per adult to register," she added.

"You will then receive your free Santa suit and a fund-raising pack. There is no minimum sponsorship just raise what you can."

More information can be found by calling Karen on 01384 456111 ext 4449. To find out more see dudleygroup.nhs.uk/our-charity/upcoming-events-and-campaigns

Toxic gas cannisters found on bridle path

GAS cylinders have been found dumped on a bridle path. Environment officers found the cylinders along a path off the Bridgnorth Road in Wombourne.

Of the 56 cylinders found, three were full of a toxic gas called chlorodifluoromethane, normally used in refrigeration. Damaged valves on all three cylinders prompting fears they could have leaked the gas into the atmosphere.

Inhaling chlorodifluoromethane can irritate the nose, throat and lungs, causing tightness in the chest and difficulty with breathing.

The three cylinders containing the gas were removed from the scene immediately by officials who took them to a safe storage area.

Environmental officers from South Staffordshire Council are appealing for information on where the cylinders may have come from. Call 01902 696200.

Owzat? Ex-bank chief Mervyn is now president of cricket club

FORMER Governor of the Bank of England and ex-Wolverhampton schoolboy Mervyn King has been appointed the president of Worcestershire County Cricket Club.

Lord King, a former pupil of Wolverhampton Grammar School, will be president for the club's 150th anniversary celebrations next year.

The son of a Gornal headmaster, Lord King grew up in Canterbury Road, Penn, and is a lifelong fan of the

club. Outgoing president John Elliott, praised the appointment as "a wonderful decision and a great name to be associated with the cricket club."

Lord King's support for the Pears goes back to their first County Championship title triumph in 1964.

He said he was keen to play an active role in Worcestershire's landmark year, and predicted exciting times ahead with the major redevelopment of New Road in the past decade and the young, talented squad which has earned promotion to Division One in the Championship.

Former Worcestershire wicket-keeper Elliott, who also spent

eight years as club chairman, added: "He is a very passionate supporter of Worcestershire. He will be around on the cricket circuit as well and is going to help with our fund-raising for the 150th anniversary year.

"It's a great name to have associated with the club."

Lord King said, who is also an avid Aston Villa supporter, said the appointment was a great honour.

"My youth was spent at New Road watching the first Worcestershire side win the county championship 50 years ago. With the 150th anniversary next year, there is much to celebrate in our history. The future is even brighter."



Appointed — Mervyn King

Albion medal beats estimate

AN FA Cup winner's medal belonging to a member of the victorious Albion side of 1968 exceeded expectations when it sold for £13,000 at auction.

The nine carat gold medal went under the hammer for £5,000 more than the estimate. It had been the property of centre half John Talbut who was in the starting XI for the match remembered for Jeff Astle's extra time winner.

The centre half joined West Bromwich Albion from Burnley in December 1966, for £30,000. He went on to play 144 league matches for the Baggies, during which time the club appeared in four League Cup finals. Mr Talbut ended his career in Belgium playing for KV Mechelen, who he later managed.

Graham Budd Auctions in London confirmed that 74-year-old Mr Talbut's medal had gone to a private collector.

TOTAL SUPPLIES

The BEST trade/DIY prices in town

on

Kitchens • Bathrooms



Visit our showroom
for our FREE no
obligation
quotation and
design service

Also available in STOCK

- Fascias soffits • Guttering • Drainage • Plumbing • Windows Doors and Conservatories
- Waste • Water Service • Internal Cladding • SILICONS • CASTINGS • ANCILLARIES

Unit 1. City estate. Corngreaves Road
Cradley Heath B64 7EP Tel: 01384 573903

Open
Mon - Fri 8am - 5pm
Sat 8am - 12 noon



There's something
for everyone at...

BLACKHEATH MARKET

OPEN
Monday 9.00 am-4.30 pm
(except Bank Holiday Mondays)
Friday & Saturday 9.00 am-5.00 pm

All enquiries to Oliver Watchorn
07850 742961
www.blackheath-market.co.uk

Everything But The Kitchen Sink!

[facebook](#)

Stuart & Neil Hodgkins

WATCH REPAIRERS, JEWELLERS & ENGRAVERS



IDEAL FOR WEDDING &
GRADUATION GIFTS

FATHERS DAY GIFT
IDEAS

151 HIGH STREET,
BLACKHEATH B65 0EA
(Next to the
new library)
TELEPHONE:
0121 559 7156

Come along to Blackheath Christmas Lights Switch On

Fun for all the family
Get ready for Christmas

Sandwell
Metropolitan Borough Council

Jordans Solicitors

FRIENDLY AND PRICE COMPETITIVE

Here at Jordans Solicitors you will find experienced specialists in the following aspects of law, **conveyancing** both residential and commercial, **Wills and Probate**, **Powers of Attorney & Family Law**. If the regular office hours 9.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday are not very convenient for you we can offer Thursday evening and Saturday morning



JORDANS
SOLICITORS

1 Summer Hill, Halesowen B63 3BU
Tel: **0121 585 3900**
35 Payne Street, Blackheath, West Midlands B65 0DH
Tel: **0121 559 2922**

www.jordans-solicitors.co.uk



Snooks Snooker Club is the perfect place for snooker. With five heated snooker tables, one pool table you can unwind in our relaxed atmosphere.

Established in 1985, Mike and Di have been in charge since 2007 and offer a wide range of hot and cold food and real ales from £2 pint while watching all sports on the large TV screens. With the world's top snooker players regularly playing exhibitions, Snooks is one of Halesowen's best kept secrets.

Snooker Hall, 1st Floor, Sydney House, Long Lane, Halesowen B62 9JZ

Telephone: **0121 561 3481**

Blackheath Christmas lights to sparkle

Sandwell's Mayor will be joined by Santa in a fun-filled family Christmas lights switch-on in Blackheath.

Mayor Councillor Derek Rowley will officially switch the lights on in Blackheath town centre on Saturday 22 November at 6pm.

Lots of family fun is lined up during the day with entertainers, a funfair and stalls selling festive gifts from 3-7pm.

Blackheath ukulele group Strummers, Rowley Area

Band, Rowley Hall Children's Choir and St Michael's Brass Band will entertain the crowds as well as performances from Coneygre Performing Arts.

Councillor Barbara Price, Rowley Regis town lead member, said: "I hope lots of people will come along and get into the festive spirit as well as support traders at our lights switch-on."

A Tree of Light, in memory of loved ones, will also light up, with all donations going to Macmillan Cancer Research.



BREW AND VIEW

BEER & WINE MAKING KITS AND ACCESSORIES

BLACKHEATH MARKET

PHONE:
0121 532 1850

WWW.BREWANDVIEW.CO.UK

MOBILE:
07789 524412

25% OFF
E-Cigarette Starter Kit with this advert

(E-Liquids made in the UK)



For all your everyday essentials

- DIY
- Electrical Hardware
- Appliance Repair Centre

Home Store

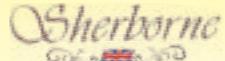
9 High Street, Blackheath B65 0DT
07557 129939

JOHN T. HARRIS

House Furnishers & Re-Upholstery Service



Recliner Chairs



Stockist of chairs to make sitting and rising easier

You can relax with us



Ortho Chairs

• Divan Beds

• Bed Frames

• Mattresses

0121 559 2402

1A Causeway, Blackheath

Now open Saturday 10am-2pm, Weekdays 10am-4.00pm
Closed all day Thursday • Private car park



THE RAJ SPICE

CONTEMPORARY CUISINE

'Your award winning restaurant'

Curry chef of the year 2010 - 2011



CHRISTMAS BOOKINGS ARE NOW BEING TAKEN

Christmas Day Lunch

(1.00pm First Seating, 3.00pm Second Seating)

STARTER

SOUP OR PRAWN COCKTAIL

MAIN COURSE

ROAST TURKEY WITH VEGETABLE & STUFFING

DESSERT

COFFEE & ICE CREAM

£19.95PP (ADULTS) £9.95 (CHILDREN UNDER 10)

Indian Christmas Day Lunch

(1.00pm First Seating, 3.00pm Second Seating)

The chef will make his own selection of starter, main course, side dish and choice of rice or naan and coffee included. This food may not be on our menu, he will create his selection. Including king prawn, sea bass or salmon.

£19.95PP (ADULTS) £9.95 (CHILDREN UNDER 10)

0121 559 5537 / 561 3556

7 Halesowen Street, Rowley Regis, Warley, West Midlands B65 0HG

www.therajspice.co.uk



Green Leevs Garden Centre

52-53 Halesowen Street, Rowley Regis, B65 0HF

OPPOSITE SAINSBURYS BLACKHEATH

Open 7 days a week in December

Tel: 0121 561 1011



CYPRESS NURSERY

CHRISTMAS TREES AVAILABLE NOW:

Lovely non-shedding Nordmann fir - all sizes on blocks and 3-4 ft rooted
Traditional Norway Spruce up to 15 ft on blocks or rooted
Blue Spruce 6-7 ft rooted
Can be delivered for a small fee if required

WE ARE JUST STARTING TO MAKE ON SITE:

* Holly Balls * Wreaths * Door Rings * Oasis Pans
Call in now and order yours, or phone/email, any design and colour co-ordinated, if required
Yew Tree Lane (off Powle Lane) Blackheath
Phone: 0121 559 1495

OPENING TIMES 7 DAYS A WEEK 9 - 5.15

Due to being open 7 days - Closed 1 - 2 for lunch
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
www.cypressnursery.net info@cypressnursery.net

Birmingham Dogs' Home has a long and notable history in the care and protection of rescuing strays from the city streets of Birmingham and surrounding towns and villages in the West Midlands.

It was founded in 1892 on land that was made available by the late Sir Alfred Gooch Bart in New Canal Street, Birmingham, and proudly displayed the heading 'Birmingham Home for Lost and Starving Dogs' above its doors, a sign that is still present on the building, having been restored by its current owners.

Almost 100 years later - in 1987 - the Duchess of York officially opened the New Bartholomew Street home, which had been purpose-built to provide shelter and protection for over 150 abandoned dogs in comfortable kennel blocks with adjacent facilities, such as its own vets' clinic, puppy unit and isolation block.

The home is a charity which can only survive through the generosity and support of the general public and

benefactors from the local community. Without this we would be unable to carry on the vital work of rescuing and rehoming abandoned dogs.

Rescued

We at Birmingham Dogs' Home are here primarily to ensure that the abandoned dogs coming into our care are rescued from their plight, reunited with owners who may have lost them or rehomed to families that will respect and nurture them.

Our **rehoming procedure** is designed and operated principally to be both practical and fair. It takes into consideration the high number of dogs brought into our homes on a daily and weekly basis as well as our desire to find the best possible home for each individual dog in our care.

The public are free to walk around our homes to view our dogs at any time during our opening hours of Monday to Saturday 11am - 4.45pm, but they should be aware that not all dogs are available for rehoming. Some are stray dogs due to be claimed by their owners while others are under assessment by our staff for either medical or behavioural concerns.

Once you have spent time with one of our dogs and are satisfied that you would like to offer the dog a home, our rehoming staff will take you through the various stages required to complete the process. No pressure is placed on anyone to offer a dog a home. We do stress, however, to anyone considering this option that they must take as much time necessary before deciding to reserve a dog in our care.

Abandoned

Your help brings hope and happy tomorrows for abandoned dogs

Fundraising is the life's blood of Birmingham Dogs' Home. Without it we simply could not exist.

With no Government funding, we survive purely through the generous contributions of the general public, interested companies, groups, organisations and kind-hearted individuals who may or may not have purchased dogs from us and have remembered us in their Wills.

Legacies and other contributions are valued beyond compare and allow us to carry on providing care and protection for unwanted dogs.

This ensures that we can continue to rescue these unfortunate animals, oversee their welfare and good health and treat any conditions with first class veterinary attention all with one aim in mind ... to see them happily rehomed to loving new families.

Our highly trained kennel team do the rest with loving pastoral care prior to their four-legged charges leaving for pastures new.

There are various fundraising routes available for those who wish to donate. Whichever, we at Birmingham Dogs' Home are deeply indebted to those of you who work so tirelessly to help us help them ...

**Sunnyside
Kennels**



A plea at Christmas

Give a homeless dog a Christmas and New Year dinner for only

30p

Donate by

- post

Dark Lane, Coven,
Wolverhampton WV10 7PN

- Text

FEED28 £3, £5, £7
or £10 to 70070

Text costs donation plus a standard rate message.
Must get bill payer's permission.

- Call

0121 643 5018 (option 3)

- Online

www.birminghamdogshome.org.uk

House full signs for big Civic gigs

BLACK Country rock god Robert Plant has reportedly rubbed his claims that Richard Branson offered him multi-millions to join a Led Zeppelin reunion but fans of the iconic rocker can see him in action at a sold-out Wolverhampton Civic Hall on Friday.

There's another full house when sassy soul singer Paloma Faith funks up the venue with her Perfect Contradiction album on Saturday. The same day next door at a packed Wulfrun Hall, from noon to midnight, punk rockers — including Slaughter & The Dogs, UK Subs and Sploogenessabounds — celebrate Daz Russell's 30 years putting on gigs. You can get a ticket for The Specials at the Civic tonight (Thursday).

Savage evening of rock 'n' roll ahead

BIRMINGHAM gig highlights kick off with bluesy rock 'n' roll from Barrence Whitfield & The Savages at The Institute in Digbeth tonight (Thursday). James will urge fans to Sit Down at the NIA on Saturday while James Blunt will be sharing his Moon Landing at the same venue on Sunday. That's the same night New Jersey rockers The Gaslight Anthem play the 02 Academy. New York singer-songwriter Sharon Van Etten is at The Institute on Wednesday.

The Robin 2 in Bilston revels in 80s nostalgia, plus some newer material, from Go West on Saturday and China Crisis on Sunday.

American classic Mockingbird being brought to life on stage

Bad boy is a panto 'stalker'

HIS alter-ego Peter Barlow has just been cleared of murder but Coronation Street's Chris Gascoyne is gearing up for another bad boy role as he prepares for Birmingham's big panto.

He left the soap this month after 14 years and will head to the West Midlands for his festive role.

The actor will play Fleshcreep in Jack and the Beanstalk, with pop singer Duncan James, from Blue, as the dashing Jack.

Fun

Chris said: "I am hoping it is going to be good fun, nice and light-hearted."

Duncan is itching to get started. "I've done a lot of theatre and appeared in the West End but I've never had the opportunity to do pantomime," he said.

Their co-stars include Jane McDonald, Gary Wilmot, Paul Zerdin and Matt Slack. The Hippodrome panto runs from December 19 to February 1.



Duncan James and Chris Gascoyne look forward to Jack and the Beanstalk in Birmingham

A MUCH-loved classic American novel comes to the stage when an acclaimed version of Harper Lee's story of childhood, courage and racial prejudice, To Kill A Mockingbird, arrives in Birmingham.

The New Alexandra Theatre will be the venue for the touring incarnation of Regent Park Open Air Theatre's production. It has been adapted by Christopher Sergel from Harper Lee's novel.

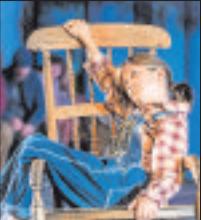
The Pulitzer Prize winner, set in America's Deep South during the 1930s, was recently ranked the seventh most influential book on society in a survey commissioned by The Folio Society.

Lawyer

It takes a child's eye view of events when young Scout's small town lawyer father Atticus Finch defends a black man who has been accused of rape, despite widespread condemnation by their neighbours.

Directed by Timothy Sheader, To Kill a Mockingbird opened Regent's Park Open Air Theatre's 2013 season to critical acclaim and sell out performances.

It will be staged in Birmingham from Tuesday to Saturday, November 25. Daniel Betts will play Atticus alongside Zackary Momoh as the accused Tom Robinson and Christopher Akhill as the mysterious Boo Radley. Jemima Bennett, Ava Potter and Rosie Boore will share the role of Scout.



Jemima Bennett as Scout

An adaptation of Ernest Hemingway's First World War love story A Farewell To Arms is at Birmingham Rep's Studio venue tonight, tomorrow and Saturday. Roald Dahl's The BFG starts a whiz-popping Christmas run at The Rep on November 26.

Saucy musical The Full Monty, in which redundant steel workers reinvent themselves as strippers to a disco soundtrack, stars EastEnders and Hollyoaks actor Gary Lucy at Wolverhampton Grand from Monday to Saturday.

Bouncers' view of the clubbers

GET the doorman's view of a Friday night on the town when John Godber's play about 1980s clubbing, Bouncers, revived by Reform Theatre Company, is staged at Wolverhampton's Arena Theatre tonight (Thursday) and tomorrow.

The Wulfrun Street venue, part of the University of Wolverhampton, is on Saturday hosting The Ugly Girl, which has been described as a surreal slapstick musical. It features Liz Carr and is brought to the theatre by Disability Arts Touring Network.

A Black Country Poetry Night at the Arena on Wednesday, November 26, features Liz Berry, Emma Purhouse, Dave Reeves and Billy Spakemon.

For each event tickets are £10 (£8 concessions).

Holly night to get in a festive mood

THOSE in a festive mood can celebrate Holly at Christmas with the Buddy Holly and the Cricketers show at Birmingham New Alexandra Theatre tonight combining a tribute to the rock 'n' roll star with seasonal tunes. Tomorrow the city centre venue has the Jackson Live in Concert tribute to Michael Jackson by Ben with band and singers and on Saturday prepare for a long night of laughter when comedy veteran Ken Dodd tickles his audience. The one-nighters continue on Sunday with another rock 'n' roll tribute, Roy Orbison and Friends with Halesowen's Barry Steele as The Big O.

Great Bar...Great Food... Great Entertainment...

Knights Quest

CHRISTMAS FAIRE BOOKINGS NOW BEING TAKEN

FRIDAY 21ST NOVEMBER MAETLOAF.... BACK OUT OF HELL

SATURDAY 22ND NOVEMBER CHARLIE WATERFORD.... 'ROCK CHICK'

SUNDAY 23RD NOVEMBER SUNDAY NIGHT IS KARAOKE NIGHT

MONDAY 24TH NOVEMBER SHANES QUIZ & KARAOKE NIGHT

TUESDAY 25TH NOVEMBER KARAOKE WITH PREDATOR

WEDNESDAY 26TH NOVEMBER YANA

THURSDAY 27TH NOVEMBER STARMAKERS KARAOKE

DAILY CARVERY Only £3.45

We also serve GREAT STEAK & GRILL DEALS

Only £4.95

12 noon-5 pm

"It's Great Down the Pub!"

High Street, Blackheath Tel: 0121 561 5599

We serve until 1am on Sundays, Midnight Monday-Wednesday, 1am Thursday, 2am Friday & Saturday

DOORS CLOSE 11.00 pm Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun

Find us at www.theknightsquest.co.uk

Any Carpet



ANYWHERE

MASSIVE CARPET AND VINYL CLEARANCE

Roll Ends Reduced To Clear!

- Free Quotes
- Free Local Delivery
- Free Measuring/Fitting Service

10% OFF ALL VINYL ENDS

129 Coombs Road, Halesowen
Call: 0121 561 4607

SALE NOW ON CALL TODAY AND SAVE!

While Stock Lasts



Sheds

8ft x 6ft	10ft x 6ft	10ft x 8ft	12ft x 8ft
£370	£500	£540	£700

Also...Feather Edge Fencing Panels

6ft x 6ft	6ft x 5ft	6ft x 4ft	6ft x 3ft
£28	£27	£26	£25

Sheds and Summer Houses

Tel: 01384 944115

Mob: 07594 841785

Email: woodenbuildings@hotmail.com

Unit 4, Silver End Trading Estate,
Wedgbury Way, Brierley Hill,
West Midlands DY5 3LA



Halesowen Fireplaces

AT THE HEART OF YOUR HOME

Complete Fireplace Packages from £499
(including fire)



For a range of Gas and Electric Fires and Surrounds visit our showroom (opposite Kwik Fit on Long Lane)

Telephone 0121 559 9985

Unit 14, Long Lane Trading Estate,
Long Lane, Halesowen B62 9LD
www.halesowenfireplaces.co.uk

GRINSELL'S SKIP HIRE LTD

- Established 1985 •
- All sizes of Skips & Containers •
- Reliable Service • Bulk Transport •
- Waste Transfer Station •
- Public Weighbridge Facility •
- Screened Soil •
- Re-cycled Products •

Tel: 0121 555 6060

Fax: 0121 555 7332

Yard C, Parkrose Ind. Estate, Middlemore Road B66 2DZ

Email: grinsellskiphire@btconnect.com Web: www.grinsellskiphire.co.uk

CHOICE



BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00 Saturday Kitchen** Live. **11.30 Football Focus.** **12.00 BBC News:** Weather. **12.10** Live Formula 1: Abu Dhabi Grand Prix – Qualifying. The battle for pole in the final round of the season now begins. **1.30pm** **1.30pm** International Rugby Union: Scotland v Tonga (kick-off 2.30pm). **1.40pm** Final Score. **5.20pm** Celebrity Mastermind. (R) **5.50pm** BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

6.10 Pointless Celebrities: Alexander Armstrong presents a sports special, featuring Dennis Taylor, Bobby George, Sharon Davies, Louise Hazel, Dwan Chambers, Gail Emms, Ugo Monye and Phil Vickery.

7.00 Strictly Come Dancing: After the excitement of Blackpool Tower Ballroom, the pro-celebrity couples make their way back to the studio – and with another couple having been voted out last week, the competition will be more tense than ever. But there will be plenty of spinning and sequins as the hopefuls tackle a number of demanding routines in the hope of getting their names at the top of the leaderboard. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman present, while Len Goodman, Bruno Tonioli, Craig Revel Horwood and Darcey Bussell are the ones to impress. The results are tomorrow at 7.15pm.

8.15 Atlantis: Part two of two. Perilous, mysterious and siege to the city, and the only hope rests with Jason, Hercules and Pythagoras, who are far from home fighting their own battle.

9.00 Casualty: An asylum seeker refuses life-saving surgery because of his religious beliefs. Big Mac tries to reunite a Burmese man with his daughter and Dylan helps Ethan with a diagnosis.

9.50 The National Lottery Live: Gaby Roslin celebrates 20 years of the National Lottery, with a performance from shadow dancers Attraction charting the history of lottery funding in the UK.

10.00 BBC News: Weather.

10.20 Match of the Day: Gary Lineker presents highlights of today's Premier League clashes, including Arsenal v Manchester United; National Lottery Update.

11.45pm The Football League Show.

1.05pm Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.10pm** BBC News.

BBC2

8.20 Formula 1: Abu Dhabi Grand Prix – Practice Two. (R) **9.55pm** Live Formula 1: Abu Dhabi Grand Prix – Practice Three. **11.05pm** Bargain Hunt. (R) **11.30pm** James Martin: Home Comforts. (R) **12.15pm** James Martin: Home Comforts. (R) **1.00am** Rick Stein's Far Eastern Odyssey. (R) **2.00am** Escalator to Counter. (R) **2.45am** Film: Red Shoes. (R) **3.45am** Power and Presburger's drama, starring Moira Shearer. **4.55am** Live International Rugby Union: Wales v New Zealand (kick-off 5.30pm).

7.30pm Fly! Trade Secrets! The experts examine the smallest and largest collectibles featured on the show, and Paul Martin visits Wiltshire where the Science Museum stores its oversized objects.

8.00 Perry and Crisp: Made in Britain. The celebration of comedy writing duo David Croft and Jimmy Perry continues with an examination of how their sitcoms chronicled the UK's class system in the 20th century.

8.30 Dad's Army: The platoon part in an efficiency test in a bid to prove its worth, but mistakenly attacks a tea lady with onions from Jones's van. (R)

9.00 QI XL: Extended edition. Bill Bailey, Sandi Toksvig, Jason Manford and regular panelist Alan Davies try to answer host Stephen Fry's range of fiendish questions about lethal things.

9.45 Tomorrow's Worlds: The Unearthly History of Science Fiction. New series. Dominic Sandbrook explores the many aspects of the genre and examines its impact on cinema, television and literature. He begins by looking at sci-fi's enduring fascination with outer space, from Jules Verne's pioneering 19th-century vision of a voyage to the moon, to the futuristic utopias Lucas created for Star Wars.

Along the way, he reveals how Stanley Kubrick made 2001: A Space Odyssey seem so believable and why a man in a dressing gown became one of sci-fi's best-loved heroes in The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy.

10.45pm Intruders: Jack discovers the cause of Amy's recent strange behaviour.

11.30pm Film: Minority Report. (2002) Sci-Fi thriller, starring Tom Cruise.

1.50pm ITV News: Weather.

1.50pm The Chase. (R) **1.00pm** Jackpot247.

12.05pm The Chase. (R) **1.00pm** Jackpot247. **3.00pm** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R)

ITV

6.00 CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show! **6.25pm** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.35pm** Pat & Stan. **(R) 6.40pm** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. **(R) 6.50pm** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. **(R) 7.05pm** Cannimals. (R) **7.10pm** Cannimals. (R) **7.20pm** Sign Stories: Share a Story. **7.25pm** Story. (R) **7.35pm** The Beanie Beanie Chronicles. **8.15pm** Hazel. (R) **8.30pm** The Munch Box. **9.25pm** ITV News. **9.30pm** The Hungry Sailors. (R) **10.25pm** Weather. **11.25pm** Storage Hoarders. (R) **12.25pm** Surprise Surprise. (R) **1.30pm** All Star Family Fortunes. (R) **2.15pm** Doc Martin. **(R) 3.45pm** Keep It in the Family. (R) **4.15pm** Film: Scooby-Doo. (2002) Live-action comedy adventure.

6.00 Regional Programme: Weather. **6.15pm** ITV News: Weather.

6.30pm New You've Been Framed! Comedy with Harry Hill, inspired by viewers' videos, featuring the interrogation of a toy bear. Disney princesses conducting body searches and tips for keeping a marriage fresh.

7.00 The Chase: Celebrity Special. Olympic gold medalist Greg Rutherford, Birds of a Feather star Lesley Joseph, Emmerdale's Matthew Wolfenden and football pundit Chris Kamara play for charity. Bradley Walsh hosts.

8.00 The X Factor: The aspiring pop stars hope to turn another week of rehearsals into a winning performance as they take the stage in the seventh live studio round. With the final just three weeks away and the prize of a life-changing record deal coming a little closer, the acts will be feeling the pressure to stand out from the competition and win viewers' votes. Dermot O'Leary deals with the drama on the judging panel. The results are tomorrow at 8pm.

9.40pm I'm a Celebrity... Get Me Out of Here! Ant and Dec present the latest jungle stories and announce which star will be taking part in the next Bush Tucker Trial as the celebrities face another challenging day Down Under.

10.45pm The Jonathan Ross Show: The host is joined by stand-up star Lee Evans, comedian and actor Jack Whitehall, former Doctor Ian McEwan and Irish group Boyzone.

11.50pm ITV News: Weather.

12.05pm The Chase. (R) **1.00pm** Jackpot247. **3.00pm** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.15 Trans World Sport. **7.10pm** The Grid. **7.35pm** Anglesey Sandman Weekend. **8.00pm** Kitchen. **10.00pm** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **10.35pm** Frasier. (R) **11.05pm** The Big Bang Theory. **11.35pm** The Big Bang Theory. **12.00pm** The Simpsons. (R) **12.30pm** Marvin and the Miracles. (R) **1.30pm** Channel 4's guide to coverage from Haydock Park and Ascot. **4.00pm** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.25pm** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.00pm** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.25pm** Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.00pm Come Dine with Me. (R) Sophie hosts the final dinner party in Darlington, hoping her Nigerian recipes and a round of hip-hop karaoke will impress her guests. (R)

6.30pm Channel 4 News.

7.00pm Speed with Guy Martin. The team of experts race to the challenge of building the world's fastest soapbox racer in an attempt to set a new speed record using just the pull of gravity and a tarmac road. To get to grips with going blisteringly fast on a public road, Guy tries his hand at street luge with former global champion Helene Schmitz, before joining his team of engineers to explore the science of rolling resistance and the importance of tyre pressure.

Armed with what they believe to be the perfect formula, they produce a unique soapbox cart inspired by Mother Nature and, after training with the Team GB women's bobsled pair, confidence is high – but are disaster and mayhem just around the corner? Last in the series. (R)

8.00pm Walking Through History: King John's Ruin – Peak District. On a walk across the medieval monarch's stamping grounds of Sherwood Forest and the Peak District, Tony Robinson discovers King John was a man who stumbled from crisis to crisis.

9.00pm Was Alright in the 1970s. Part two of the return to nostalgia, foremothers, family values and social orientation on TV in the 1970s, featuring a selection of surprising clips. Matt Lucas narrates.

10.00pm Film: Lawless. (2012) Premiere. Crime drama, starring Shia LaBeouf, Tom Hardy and Jason Clarke.

12.20pm Film: JFK. (1991) **3.40pm** Hollyoaks. (R) **5.55pm** SuperScrimpers. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **9.35pm** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **10.10pm** Access. **10.15pm** Grizzlies: Britain in the Sun. (R) **11.15pm** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R) **12.15pm** Film: Trading Christmas. (2011) A lonely widow and a frustrated oilfield arranger to swap houses for Christmas, and both find themselves having unexpected romances. Comedy, starring Faith Ford and Gil Bellows. **2.00pm** Film: All I Want for Christmas. (2007) Romantic drama, with Gail O'Grady and Robert Mallon. **3.45pm** Film: My Santa. (2013) Premiere. Drama, starring Samaine Armstrong.

5.30pm Film: Crazy for Christmas. (2005) Family drama, starring Andrea Roth.

7.15pm Film: Christmas Wishes. (2012) A teacher at a boarding school agrees to look after troubled students who are unable to go home for the Christmas holidays. His career is threatened when a pupil vandalises a beloved local tree where people can leave their handwritten wishes, but he rallies the townsfolk to repair the damage. Family drama, starring Jason Gedrick and Richard Harmon.

8.55pm 5 News Weekend.

9.00pm Film: The Long Kiss Goodnight. (1996) An amnesiac teacher starts to experience disturbing flashbacks of her former life and hires a private eye to help her learn more about her past. His findings unearth a murky past and her involvement with a shadowy government organisation – whose agents have been dispatched to kill them both. Action thriller, with Geena Davis and Samuel L. Jackson, alongside Malahide, Brian Cox and Craig Bierko.

11.20pm Film: Gotham. Bullock fears a copycat killer is targeting the offspring of the city's wealthiest citizens, while the net closes around Gordon for the apparent murder of Oswald Cobblepot. (R)

12.15pm SuperCasino. Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **3.10pm** The Gadget Show. The presenters employ technology to transform their chances of beating professionals at their own game, with Orts Delvy using a robot to take on a goal keeper in a penalty shootout. (R)

4.00pm How to Doctor. Ann McPherson works her magic on an array of garden frits in the Kensal Green area of west London. (R) **4.25pm** Make It BIG. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three

7.00 Great Movie Mistakes III: Not in 3D **8.00pm** Top Gear 9.00 Sherlock **10.30pm** Live at the Apollo **11.00pm** Family Guy **1.15pm** Sweat the Small Stuff **4.15pm** Life Is Toff **2.15pm** The Revolution Will Be Televised **2.45pm** Live at the Apollo **3.15pm** Some Girls **3.45pm** In Deep **4.00pm** Close

BBC Four

7.00 Natural World: Grizzlies of Alaska **8.00pm** The Riviera: A History in Pictures **9.00pm** Inspector Montalbano **10.45pm** The Joy of the Guitar Riff **11.45pm** Great Guitar Riffs at the BBC **12.45pm** Top of the Pops: 1979 **1.30pm** Sounds of the 70s: Art House Glam – Get in the Swing **2.00pm** Natural World: Grizzlies of Alaska **3.00pm** The Riviera: A History in Pictures **4.00pm** Close

ITV2

12.30pm Film: Free Willy 2: The Adventure Home (1995) **2.30pm** Film: Dungeons and Dragons (2000) **4.35pm** I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! **6.05pm** Film: King Kong (2005) **9.40pm** The Xtra Factor **10.45pm** I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! Now! **11.45pm** The X Factor **1.20pm** The Xtra Factor **2.20pm** You've Been Framed! **2.45pm** Teleshopping **5.45pm** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

12.35pm Film: Columbo: Any Old Port in a Storm (1973) **2.35pm** A Touch of Frost **4.35pm** Inspector Morse **6.55pm** Rosemary & Thyme **8.00pm** Doc Martin **9.00pm** Midsumers **11.00pm** A Touch of Frost **12.45pm** Bomb Girls **1.35pm** World Kitchen **2.00pm** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30pm** Teleshopping

ITV4

11.20pm Alas Smith and Jones **12.20pm** Movies Now **12.35pm** Film: Cheyenne Autumn (1964) **3.45pm** Film: Rooster Cogburn (1975) **6.00pm** Formula E Championship **7.00pm** Storage Wars **9.00pm** Film: A View to a Kill (1985) **11.45pm**: Raging Bull (1980) **2.25pm** Cheers **2.50pm** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00pm** Teleshopping

E4

12.00pm How I Met Your Mother **1.00pm** Film: A Turtle's Tale: Sammy's Adventures (2010) **2.45pm** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts (2004) **Made in Chelsea** **4.00pm** Melissa & Joey **5.00pm** How I Met Your Mother **6.00pm** The Big Bang Theory **7.00pm** Film: The Fourth Kind (2009) **11.05pm** Rude(ish) **12.10pm** The Inbetweeners **1.20pm** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **2.15pm** How I Met Your Mother **3.00pm** Franklin & Bash **3.45pm** Happy Endings

Film4

2.50pm The Time Machine (1960) **4.55pm** Star Trek: Insurrection (1998) **7.00pm** The Seven Dwarfs **8.00pm** The Return of the King (2003) **9.00pm** Rush Hour 3 (2007) **10.45pm** Underworld: Awakening (2012) **12.25pm** Room 237 (2011) **2.25pm** Apartment 143 (2011)

Fully Licensed Restaurant.
But You're Welcome To Bring
Your Own Alcoholic Drinks

01384 560633
01384 412133

FREE HOME DELIVERY
AVAILABLE
(within 3 miles radius order over £10)

Payline over the phone
VISA MasterCard SWITCH NATELA

Sunday to Thursday: 5pm till 12am / Friday and Saturday: 5pm till 12.30am
3/4 Cradley Road (five ways) , Cradley Heath, West Midlands, B64 6AG

admission: £9 concessions: £7.50 (combined ticket includes admission to both House and Fair)

Single tickets will be available to purchase at the gate on the day at a cost of £5 adults, £4 concessions children aged 12 and younger FREE if accompanied by an adult - admission discounts at oakleighfairs.co.uk/shugchrist

supported by our chums at Staffordshire Life

admission: £9 concessions: £7.50 (combined ticket includes admission to both House and Fair)

Single tickets will be available to purchase at the gate on the day at a cost of £5 adults, £4 concessions children aged 12 and younger FREE if accompanied by an adult - admission discounts at oakleighfairs.co.uk/shugchrist

supported by our chums at Staffordshire Life

admission: £9 concessions: £7.50 (combined ticket includes admission to both House and Fair)

Single tickets will be available to purchase at the gate on the day at a cost of £5 adults, £4 concessions children aged 12 and younger FREE if accompanied by an adult - admission discounts at oakleighfairs.co.uk/shugchrist

supported by our chums at Staffordshire Life

admission: £9 concessions: £7.50 (combined ticket includes admission to both House and Fair)

Single tickets will be available to purchase at the gate on the day at a cost of £5 adults, £4 concessions children aged 12 and younger FREE if accompanied by an adult - admission discounts at oakleighfairs.co.uk/shugchrist

supported by our chums at Staffordshire Life

admission: £9 concessions: £7.50 (combined ticket includes admission to both House and Fair)

Single tickets will be available to purchase at the gate on the day at a cost of £5 adults, £4 concessions children aged 12 and younger FREE if accompanied by an adult - admission discounts at oakleighfairs.co.uk/shugchrist

supported by our chums at Staffordshire Life

admission: £9 concessions: £7.50 (combined ticket includes admission to both House and Fair)

Single tickets will be available to purchase at the gate on the day at a cost of £5 adults, £4 concessions children aged 12 and younger FREE if accompanied by an adult - admission discounts at oakleighfairs.co.uk/shugchrist

supported by our chums at Staffordshire Life

admission: £9 concessions: £7.50 (combined ticket includes admission to both House and Fair)

Single tickets will be available to purchase at the gate on the day at a cost of £5 adults, £4 concessions children aged 12 and younger FREE if accompanied by an adult - admission discounts at oakleighfairs.co.uk/shugchrist

supported by our chums at Staffordshire Life

admission: £9 concessions: £7.50 (combined ticket includes admission to both House and Fair)

Single tickets will be available to purchase at the gate on the day at a cost of £5 adults, £4 concessions children aged 12 and younger FREE if accompanied by an adult - admission discounts at oakleighfairs.co.uk/shugchrist

supported by our chums at Staffordshire Life

admission: £9 concessions: £7.50 (combined ticket includes admission to both House and Fair)

Single tickets will be available to purchase at the gate on the day at a cost of £5 adults, £4 concessions children aged 12 and younger FREE if accompanied by an adult - admission discounts at oakleighfairs.co.uk/shugchrist

supported by our chums at Staffordshire Life

admission: £9 concessions: £7.50 (combined ticket includes admission to both House and Fair)

Single tickets will be available to purchase at the gate on the day at a cost of £5 adults, £4 concessions children aged 12 and younger FREE if accompanied by an adult - admission discounts at oakleighfairs.co.uk/shugchrist

supported by our chums at Staffordshire Life

admission: £9 concessions: £7.50 (combined ticket includes admission to both House and Fair)

Single tickets will be available to purchase at the gate on the day at a cost of £5 adults, £4 concessions children aged 12 and younger FREE if accompanied by an adult - admission discounts at oakleighfairs.co.uk/shugchrist

supported by our chums at Staffordshire Life

admission: £9 concessions: £7.50 (combined ticket includes admission to both House and Fair)

Single tickets will be available to purchase at the gate on the day at a cost of £5 adults, £4 concessions children aged 12 and younger FREE if accompanied by an adult - admission discounts at oakleighfairs.co.uk/shugchrist

supported by our chums at Staffordshire Life

admission: £9 concessions: £7.50 (combined ticket includes admission to both House and Fair)

Single tickets will be available to purchase at the gate on the day at a cost of £5 adults, £4 concessions children aged 12 and younger FREE if accompanied by an adult - admission discounts at oakleighfairs.co.uk/shugchrist

supported by our chums at Staffordshire Life

admission: £9 concessions: £7.50 (combined ticket includes admission to both House and Fair)

Single tickets will be available to purchase at the gate on the day at a cost of £5 adults, £4 concessions children aged 12 and younger FREE if accompanied by an adult - admission discounts at oakleighfairs.co.uk/shugchrist

supported by our chums at Staffordshire Life

admission: £9 concessions: £7.50 (combined ticket includes admission to both House and Fair)

Single tickets will be available to purchase at the gate on the day at a cost of £5 adults, £4 concessions children aged 12 and younger FREE if accompanied by an adult - admission discounts at oakleighfairs.co.uk/shugchrist

supported by our chums at Staffordshire Life

admission: £9 concessions: £7.50 (combined ticket includes admission to both House and Fair)

Single tickets will be available to purchase at the gate on the day at a cost of £5 adults, £4 concessions children aged 12 and younger FREE if accompanied by an adult - admission discounts at oakleighfairs.co.uk/shugchrist

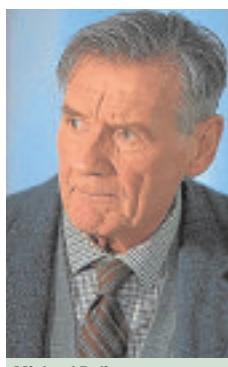
supported by our chums at Staffordshire Life

admission: £9 concessions: £7.50 (combined ticket includes admission to both House and Fair)

Single tickets will be available to purchase at the gate on the day at a cost of £5 adults, £4 concessions children aged 12 and younger FREE if accompanied by an adult - admission discounts at oakleighfairs.co.uk/shugchrist

supported by our chums at Staffordshire

CHOICE



Michael Palin

Remember Me (BBC1, 9pm)

It's 23 years since Alan Bleasdale's GBH first hit our screens. Incredibly, it marks the last time that Michael Palin took the lead role in a TV drama. But the seasoned traveler and comedian is back in this three-part series as Tom, an eightysomething pensioner living in a small Yorkshire town. He fakes a fall so he can be taken into residential care, but takes with him only an empty suitcase. Once he's settled in, a variety of bizarre events begin, sparked by the freak death of the social worker in charge of his case. Later, Hannah, the care worker Tom has bonded with, discovers sheet music and wax recordings of various versions of Scarborough Fair, but he becomes agitated when she sings it to him.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.35 Match of the Day.** (R) **9.00 The Andrew Marr Show.** **10.00 Sunday Morning Live.** **11.00 Sunday Politics.** **12.10 Live Formula 1: Abu Dhabi Grand Prix.** The final round of the season (Start-time 1.00pm). **3.30 Escape to the Country.** (R) **4.00 Points of View.** **4.15 Points of Praise.** **4.50 Life Story.** (R) **5.50 BBC News; Regional News.** Weather.

6.15 Countryfile. The team is in Berkshire, where John Craven visits the agricultural college and discovers the village of Stanhope, the inspiration for artist Stanley Spencer. Shauna Lowry heads to a valley where hundreds of racehorses train each day, and meets the son of crime writer and jockey Dick Francis. Wildlife expert Sanjida O'Connell walks the Ridgeway, the Roman road that winds its way across the county, and discovers how the landscape has inspired writers, including Wind in the Willows author Kenneth Grahame. Tom Heap investigates measures to get tough against the persecutors of birds of prey. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

7.15 Strictly Come Dancing: The Results. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkelman reveal which couples are in the dance-off, leaving their fates in the hands of the judges, and Barry Manilow performs an old favourite.

8.00 Antiques Roadshow. The team visits Tredegar House near Newport in Wales, where items include a tapestry woven in tribute to Statute Quo, a frog-shaped brooch and an intricately carved casket.

9.00 Remember Me. New series. Supernatural thriller starring Michael Palin as an elderly man whose admittance to a nursing home triggers a series of inexplicable events. Mark Addy co-stars.

10.00 BBC News: Weather.

10.30 Match of the Day 2. Mark O'Clock reviews the day's Premier League action, featuring Crystal Palace v Liverpool at Selhurst Park and Hull City v Tottenham Hotspur at the KC Stadium.

11.30 The Apprentice. (R)

12.30 Fit Protocol. (1984) **2.00 Weather for the Week Ahead.** **2.05 BBC News.**

BBC2

7.15 Countryfile. (R) **8.15 Glorious Gardens from Above.** (R) **9.00 The Football League Show.** (R) **10.20 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites.** **11.50 James Martin's Food Map of Britain.** (R) Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.15 MOTD2 Extra.** **1.00 International Rugby Union.** **2.00 Bargain Hunt.** (R) **2.45 Live Women's International Football.** **5.00 Coast.** (R) **5.30 Glorious Gardens from Above.** (R)

6.15 Flog It! Antiques experts Michael Baggott and Philip Serrill value the goods on show in Barmston, South Yorkshire, and Paul Martin talks to artist Graham Ibbeson. (R)

7.00 Secrets of the Castle with Ruth, Peter and Tom. Ruth Goodman, Peter Gunn and Tom Pinfold learn the skills of medieval builders by heading to France to join a project to construct a 13th-century castle from scratch. (R)

8.00 The Mekong River with Sue Perkins. The comedienne continues her journey up the Southeast Asian river and reaches Laos, where she spends a day with novice Buddhist monks and visits the Xayaburi hydroelectric dam.

9.00 World's Greatest Food Markets. Billingsgate fish merchant Roger Barton pits himself against traders at Mexico City's Central de Abasto, which is the largest wholesale food market on the planet.

10.00 Russell Howard's Good News. The comedian offers his perspective on stories dominating the media, whether on television, online or in print, and he is joined by a guest with an amazing tale to tell. (R)

10.30 The Wrong Mans. Sam and Phil go on the run after managing to free Scarlett from Mr Lau's clutches and find temporary safety in the hands of enigmatic MI5 agent Walker. (R)

11.00 The Wrong Mans. Sam and Phil stumble upon an assassination plot. (R)

11.30 Film: Moon. (2009) An astronaut working alone at a base on the moon discovers the disturbing truth about both the operation he is running and his own identity. Sci-fi drama, starring Sam Rockwell.

1.00 Film: The Quatermass Experiment. (1955) **2.20 Sign Zone: Countryside.** (R) **3.20 Holly City.** (R) **4.20 This Is BBC Two.**

ITV

6.00 CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show! **6.25 Pat & Stan.** (R) **6.35 Pat & Stan.** (R) **6.40 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures.** (R) **6.50 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures.** (R) **7.05 Cannimals.** (R) **7.10 Cannimals.** (R) **7.20 Signs Stories: Share a Story.** (R) **7.25 Spooky.** (R) **7.35 Bean: The Big Time Rush.** (R) **7.45 Henry.** **8.30 Big Time Rush.** (R) **9.00 The Aquabats! Super Show!** (R) **9.25 ITV News.** **9.30 Dickinson's Real Deal.** (R) **10.30 Murder, She Wrote.** (R) **11.30 ITV News.** **11.40 Film:** Carry On Cruising. (1962) **1.30 The Unforgettable Joan Sims.** (R) **2.00 All Star Family Fortunes.** (R) **3.00 The X Factor.** (R) **4.40 Midsummer Murders.** (R)

6.30 Regional Programme: Weather. **6.45 ITV News:** Weather.

7.00 Keep It in the Family. Six stars of Coronation Street join Bradley Walsh in the studio as they prepare to face the dreaded drop. Crissy Rock (Janey), Sherrie Hewson (Joyce), Jake Canuso (Mateo), Janine Duvitski (Jacqueline), Tony Maudsley (Kenneth) and Perry Benson (Clive) provide assistance as the Mercer and Jacovides families go head to head in a series of fun-filled rounds to win big prizes. The celebrities each hold the clue to a gift, from new cars to holidays in the sun, and facing being sent through a trapdoor as the contestants decide whether to swap, drop or keep it in the family.

8.00 The X Factor Results. Dermot O'Leary reveals who is safe and who has scored the lowest number of votes. Plus, performances by some of the biggest acts in the charts.

9.00 I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! (2011) The surprises keep coming for the contestants as one of them faces a live Bush Tucker Trial in an attempt to win food for their fellow campmates. Having completed their first week Down Under, there are still plenty of nightmarish tasks ahead for the stars, and with homesickness setting in, some of them will be struggling. Ant and Dec round up the best bits from the past 24 hours.

10.30 ITV News: Weather.

10.45 Catchphrase. Stephen Mulhern hosts the game show. (R)

11.25 Premiership Rugby Union.

12.15 The Stew. **2.20 Motorsport UK.** **3.10 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA.** (R) **3.55 ITV Nightscreen.**

CHANNEL 4

6.10 NFL: The American Football Show. **6.25 Pat & Stan.** (R) **6.35 Pat & Stan.** (R) **6.40 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures.** (R) **6.50 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures.** (R) **7.05 Cannimals.** (R) **7.10 Cannimals.** (R) **7.20 Signs Stories: Share a Story.** (R) **7.25 Spooky.** (R) **7.35 Bean: The Big Time Rush.** (R) **7.45 Henry.** **8.30 The Big Bang Theory.** **2.30 The Simpsons.** (R) **3.00 The Simpsons.** (R) **3.20 The Simpsons.** (R) **4.00 Film:** The Simpsons. (2010) Family comedy, starring Brendan Fraser. **5.50 Film:** Rio 2011) Animated comedy, with the voice of Jesse Eisenberg.

7.40 Channel 4 News.

8.00 Woolly Mammoth: The Autopsy. The discovery of an extraordinarily well-preserved woolly mammoth in Siberia last year has quickened the pace of one of the most ambitious and controversial projects in science – the cloning of this iconic giant of the Ice Age. When it was dug out of the permafrost, a dark red liquid oozed from the frozen body. Could it be blood? This documentary follows an international team of experts carrying out a historic autopsy on the carcass and gains access to the leading mammoth de-extinction programmes happening now in the US and South Korea.

9.00 Homeland. CIA director Lockhart arrives just as Carrie's investigation faces complications, with the troubled agent learning Majid Javadi has hatched an audacious plan to intercept information he can sell on. US drama, starring Claire Danes and Tracy Bcott.

10.00 Sarah Millican: Thoroughly Modern Millican. Stand-up performance, recorded at London's Hammersmith Apollo during the comedian's 2012 UK tour, featuring anecdotes on life's humdrum curiosities. (R)

11.00 Alan Carr: Chatty Man. The host is joined by entertainer Bette Midler, comedian Keith Lemon, and singer-songwriter James Blunt. Sam Smith performs his new single Like I Can. (R)

12.00 Confessions of a Copper. The first of two programmes in which professionals lift the lid on their working lives. (R) **1.00 The Simpsons.** (R) **1.25 American Football.** (Live) **2.00 NFL Giants v Dallas Cowboys.** Kick-off 1.30pm. **4.45 The Grid.** (R) **5.15 SuperScrumpers.** (R) **5.35 Countdown.** (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! Peppa Pig. **6.05 Roary the Racing Car.** (R) **6.15 Angelina Ballerina.** (R) **6.30 Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures.** (R) **6.35 Seaside Antics.** (R) **6.40 The Mr Men Show.** (R) **6.50 Chloe's Closet.** (R) **7.05 Once Upon a Little White Van.** (R) **7.10 Dr Who in Pyramids.** (R) **7.25 Make Way for Noddy.** (R) **7.35 The Toy Patrol.** **7.45 Little Princess.** (R) **8.00 The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky.** (R) **8.15 Wanda and the Alien.** **8.25 Zack and Quack.** **8.40 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom.** (R) **8.55 Jelly Jamm.** (R) **9.10 Lazy Town.** (R) **9.40 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.**

10.15 Access. (R) **10.20 Police Interceptors.** (R) **11.15 Police Interceptors.** (R) **12.15 Police Interceptors.** (R) **1.10 Film:** A Boyfriend for Christmas. (2004) Romantic drama, starring Kelli Williams and Shane Baumel. **3.00 Film:** The Christmas Secret. (2014) Premiere. Drama, starring Bethany Joy Lenz. **4.45 Film:** Superman III. (1983) Comic-book adventure sequel, starring Christopher Reeve.

7.15 Film: Hancock. (2008) A reluctant, alcoholic superhero ends up the most hated man in Los Angeles, which leads to a habit of causing mayhem and destruction while trying to do good. However, when he saves the life of a PR guru, the grateful executive sets about transforming the public perception of the crime-fighter, despite his wife's strong misgivings. Comedy, starring Will Smith, Jason Bateman and Charlize Theron. Edited for language.

9.00 Film: The Green Hornet. (2011) Premiere. A wealthy playboy inherits a media empire when his father dies. Determined to do some good for a change, he uses his new-found fortune to become a masked crime-fighter. Aided by his chauffeur, who is a kung fu expert and a technical genius, he fights to bring down a powerful gangster. Comic-book adventure, starring Seth Rogen.

11.25 Film: The Punisher. (1989) A policeman-turned-vigilante must save the kidnapped children of a gangster whom he has sworn to bring down. Vigilante thriller, starring Linda Hamilton.

1.05 Super Casino. **3.10 Family.** Massacre in the Jersey Slayers. (R) **4.00 Hotel Doctor.** (R) **4.25 Movie in a Bag.** (R) **5.15 Angels Jamm.** (R) **5.50 Roary the Racing Car.** (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three

7.00 Formula 1: Abu Dhabi Grand Prix – Highlights. **8.00 Film:** Peter's Greatest Dance Craze. **8.15 Film:** The Proposal (2009) **10.00 Family Guy.** **10.45 Some Girls.** **11.15 American Dad!** **12.00 Life is Toff.** **12.30 The Revolution Will Be Televised.** **1.00 Snow, Sex and Suspicious Parents.** **2.00 Some Girls.** **2.30 Sweat the Small Stuff.** **3.00 The Revolution Will Be Televised.** **3.30 Life is Toff.** **4.00 Close.**

BBC Four

7.00 The Great War. **7.40 Britain's Wildest Places.** **8.00 The Day of the Fireflies.** **9.00 Hunt Lauda:** F1's Greatest Racing Rivals (2010) **10.00 Jim Clark: The Quiet Champion.** (2011) **11.00 Dolly Parton @ Glastonbury 2014.** **12.00 Kenny Rogers: Cards on the Table.** **1.00 The Country Kings at the BBC.** **2.10 Sounds of the 70s.** **2.45 Big Band Vengeance.** **3.00 Glen Campbell: The Rhinestone Cowboy.** **3.45 Close.**

ITV2

1.55 McBusted: The Hot Deck 2.05 **2.40 Film:** Small Soldiers (1998) **3.45 Film:** Baby Face. **4.00 Film:** McPhantom. **5.00 Film:** The Big Picture (2010) **8.00 Scorpion.** **9.00 The Xtra Factor.** **10.00 The Xtra Factor.** **10.15 Film:** Celebrity Get Me Out of Here Now! **11.35 Educating Joey Essex.** **12.40 Two and a Half Men.** **1.30 Dads 1.50 The Vampire Diaries.** **2.35 Keshi:** The Hot Desk 2.45 **3.45 Nightrunner.** **3.00 Teleshopping.**

ITV3

11.50 A Touch of Frost. **1.55 Rosemary & Thyme.** **2.55 Film:** Columbus. **3.00 Sun Song.** (1974) **5.00 Film:** On the Beach (1951) **6.50 Inspector Morse.** **9.00 Lewis.** **11.00 Cracker.** **2.20 Judge Judy.** **3.25 TV3 Nightscreen.** **3.40 Emmerdale.**

ITV4

5.30 Storage Wars. **6.00 British Touring Car Championship.** **6.45 Film:** The Premium. **7.00 Rugby Union.** **8.00 Film:** Say Cheese. (2001) **9.15 Film:** First Blood (1982) **1.40 Jean-Claude Van Damme:** Behind Closed Doors. **2.30 Tommy Cooper.** **2.55 TV4 Nightscreen.** **3.00 Teleshopping.**

E4

4.15 Rundis! **Tube Shorts.** **4.30 The Big Bang Theory.** **8.00 Film:** 27 Dresses (2008) **10.10 The Inbetweeners.** **11.20 Drifters.** **11.50 Bad Robots.** **12.25 Brooklyn Nine-Nine.** **1.25 Rules of Engagement.** **2.20 My Fair Wedding.**

Film4

2.50 It's a Wonderful Life. **5.25 Silence of the Lambs.** **7.45 The Golden Child.** (1988) **9.00 Lockout.** (2012) **10.55 Date Night.** (2010) **12.40 Breathless.** (2008) **3.20 Close.**

Costcutter

Proud to be local

Lye Supermarket Ltd

cityspices.co.uk

GREAT BRANDS, GREAT SAVINGS

WINES, BEERS & SPIRITS

COMPLETE RANGE OF INDIAN SPICES

YOUR ONE STOP SHOP

FOOD OF THE WORLD

FRESH HALAL MEATS

GRADE A FRUIT & VEG....MUST TRY!

Christmas Eve
8.30am - 9.00pm

Christmas Day
10.00am - 6.00pm

Boxing Day
10.00am - 9.00pm

Mon-Sat 9am-9pm
Sun 10am - 8pm

FREE CASH MACHINE
Most major debit and credit cards excepted

Large Free Car Park
at the rear of store

MONDAY**Harry Brown, Channel 5, 10pm**

An elderly retired marine leads a law-abiding existence on a south London estate, until his best friend is murdered by a local gang. Furious at the police's inability to bring the killers to justice, he takes the law into his own hands to get revenge. Crime thriller, starring Michael Caine. (2009)

TUESDAY**The Shooting Party, BBC1, 12.20am**

An English aristocrat invites friends to his stately country home for a weekend of pheasant shooting in 1913. The guests enjoy the self-indulgent privileges of the upper classes, heedless of the local rural poor who cater to their every whim – and are blithely unaware that the approaching war will change their sheltered lives for ever. Period drama, based on Isabel Colegate's novel, with Edward Fox and Robert Hardy. (1985)

WEDNESDAY**New Town Killers, BBC1, 11.35pm**

A teenager from inner-city Edinburgh agrees to act as prey in a deadly game of cat and mouse played by a wealthy banker and his latest recruit. However, the hunters always seem to be one step ahead and the youngster realises his chances of survival are slim. Thriller, starring Dougray Scott. (2008)

**The World Is Not Enough, Friday, ITV, 10.45pm****THURSDAY****Tomorrow Never Dies, ITV, 10.40pm**

James Bond joins forces with a Chinese agent to foil a media mogul's scheme to start a war between their countries. Using an undetectable stealth ship, the press baron plans an attack on both nations' navies, knowing they will blame each other – giving him exclusive global media coverage of the resulting conflict. Spy adventure, starring Pierce Brosnan, Jonathan Pryce, Teri Hatcher and Michelle Yeoh. (1997)

FRIDAY**The World Is Not Enough, ITV, 10.45pm**

James Bond is assigned to protect the heiress of an oil dynasty after her father is killed in a bombing at MI6 headquarters. The attack is the work of an infamous terrorist who is unable to feel pain after surviving a gunshot to his head, and who now intends to destroy the world's supply of oil. Spy adventure, starring Pierce Brosnan, Robert Carlyle, Sophie Marceau and Robbie Coltrane. (1999)

PICK OF THE WEEK**Martin digs deep to find us the best deals**

Financial journalist Martin Lewis has been frequenting our screens for years now, giving insider tips on how we can further tighten our purse-strings during these hard-up times.

In fact, the money-saving expert is nothing short of a godsend actually, and if anybody knows cash, it's him.

Of course, Mr Lewis' tips have been known to get him into trouble with the big guns of the trading world on the odd occasion, but, from challenging unfair parking tickets to doling out the know-how regarding those television adverts and pestering text messages about mis-sold PPI, his advice has proved priceless (pardon the pun) in the past.

So it's with open arms and loud cheers that we welcome him back to the telly, alongside reporter Saira Khan – and it's come at just the right time, and given the time of the year, there's a noticeable theme to this first episode.

The series kicks off on what's become known as 'Black Friday', the date marking the beginning of the

Christmas shopping season. But if you're already fretting because you don't even know where to start when it comes to present-buying this year, Martin will be listing all the essential deals that you expect to find in stores and online.

Meanwhile, Martin and Saira visit a family in Hertfordshire for a personal stock take of all their belongings to help them raise money to pay for Christmas. And soon enough, any regrettably thought they'd have forgotten, as they sell unused clothes, mobile phones, buggies and toys.

The Christmas Ideal Home Show is also on Martin and Saira's to-do list this week, as they give members of the public handy tips on how to drum up a bit of extra cash for the festive period, while Martin dresses up for pantomime season as Dame Right-I-Am to show us how we can become wise consumers.

But Martin is keen to impart his expertise, he certainly doesn't want to sound like he's preaching, telling PA that he never intended to make money from doing this: "I

don't preach about how to make money. That's not really my thing at all or my passion to be honest.

"I was very lucky is the answer. I set up a website I believed in. It originally had no way of making money. I set up a business. I still don't consider myself to be an entrepreneur. I'm somebody who set up a website and I consider myself to be a journalist and consumer campaigner."

"Because the website got so big I needed a way to fund my servers, so I came up with the most ethical way I could think of to fund the site, and it did a lot better than I thought it would."

"I'm about providing information for consumers and fighting for consumer rights. I'm not about setting businesses up, and I think there are far more qualified people than me to talk about how to do that. I got lucky."

Whichever way you look at it, Martin, we're lucky that you got lucky, as our purses have been a lot heavier since you came along...

**The Martin Lewis Money Show, Friday, ITV, 8pm****BEST OF THE REST****MONDAY****Loch Ness Monster: The Missing Evidence****Channel 5, 8pm**

Tales of a creature haunting Loch Ness go back for nearly 1,500 years, but only in the last century did the legend truly take off. At St Andrews University, statistical ecologist Charles Paxton has compiled a database of every sighting of the monster ever reported and his team hopes detailed analysis of these records will finally uncover the truth behind the myth of the Loch Ness monster. This programme uses modern forensic technology to re-examine well-known photos and footage, looking at how hopes of finding a surviving dinosaur were dashed by a hoax that fooled everyone, while enthusiast Adrian Shine recounts his decades-long search for the elusive beast.

Posh People: Inside Tatler**BBC2, 9pm**

Forget watching Made in Chelsea – if you really want a glimpse of Britain's most privileged, just flick through the pages of Tatler. The oldest magazine in the world, it's been documenting the lives of Britain's upper-classes for 300 years, and being pictured in its pages is a rite of passage for the country's social elite. Now this new series is going behind the scenes to find out what's involved in documenting the lives of the rich and powerful. It

discovers that you don't have to be posh to work at Tatler, but it probably does help – editor Kate Reardon is a self-confessed 'honking great Sloane', and all the features team are expected to be versed in the rules of upper-class life. For the magazine's new recruit, writer Mathew Bell, it's a chance to see how the other half live, as he attempts to go from middle-class outsider to privileged insider, at home in the company of those featured on the magazine, who range from Lord Glasgow to Nigerian millionaire Kola Karim.

TUESDAY**Live UEFA Champions League****ITV, 7.30pm**

Manchester City v Bayern Munich (Kick-off 7.45pm). Coverage of the matchday five Group E clash from the Etihad Stadium, where the hosts are in desperate need of a positive result. Defeat at home to CSKA Moscow last time out left City bottom of the group and on the brink of elimination, which would be sealed if they fail to beat the German champions and CSKA or AS Roma triumph in the other encounter. The reverse fixture on matchday one saw Bayern win 1-0 courtesy of a late goal from former City defender Jerome Boateng.

Live UEFA Champions League, Tuesday, ITV, 7.30pm

while the corresponding fixture here in last season's competition also saw the Bundesliga outfit record a victory, as they completely outclassed the Citizens en route to a 3-1 scoreline. Presented by Adrian Chiles.

WEDNESDAY**Waterloo Road****BBC1, 8pm**

Floyd confronts Tiffany and Justin about their relationship, and after the two boys gets into a fight, Tiffany worries her brother will spill the beans to Vaughan and Allie. The police descend on Waterloo Road when Kevin's computer hacking on a multinational organisation is traced back to the school, sparking a major security risk, and Sonya's short story looks set to jeopardise her friendship with Christina after it turns out she has drawn inspiration from her colleague's alcoholic past.

THURSDAY**Britain's Bloodiest Dynasty****Channel 5, 9pm**

New series. Powerful storytelling and dramatic reconstruction bring to life one of the most bloody and violent chapters in British history as Dan Jones explores the lives of the Plantagenets, who ruled England and much of France during the Middle Ages. The historian begins with Henry II – the first king of the dynasty – a dashing and energetic warrior who transformed England from a violent and lawless state into the heart of an empire that would become one of the greatest that Europe has ever seen.

FRIDAY**Ben Fogle: New Lives in the Wild****Channel 5, 9pm**

Ben journeys to the wilderness of Alaska to spend time with Mike and Fran Turner and their children Cathy and Nate, who welcome him into their simple, self-built log cabin. He discovers how the couple have created a self-sufficient lifestyle by working the land and trapping animals, while battling against forest fires in the summer and freezing conditions in the winter. Ben takes every opportunity to get stuck into forest survival, as he battles mosquitoes and adapts to 24-hour daylight.

Dilshad INTERNATIONAL**SPECIAL OFFERS**

**SPEND £50 OR MORE AND GET £10 CASH BACK
OR FREE BOTTLE OF WINE FOR A TABLE
WITH MAIN DISHES WHEN 4 OR MORE PERSONS DINING IN.**

Offers apply on Fridays & Saturdays till 11pm.
You must produce this coupon to receive offer.

**Fully air conditioned, fully licensed,
serving over 25 years at the heart of
Halesowen and Quinton**

**The finest cuisine, freshly prepared with
90% fat free, a dish to satisfy all tastes
Newly Refurbished**

**Sunday-Thursday
DishDash 4-Course
Meal £7.95**

FREE Home Delivery (2 mile Radius)

**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to all our customers
Now taking festive party bookings**

Bring your own wine & beer only

**★★★ 3 Star - Environmental Health Officers Certificate
14-15 Halesowen Road, Halesowen
www.dilshadinternational.co.uk
Tel: 0121 421 6549 or 421 5217**

CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH
English & Indian
Traditional Menus
5 Course Meal
1st Sitting 12 - 2.30pm
2nd Sitting 2.30 - 5pm
Bookings now being taken

Psychic Reading

Psychic Drawings

Tarot Readings

Angel Card Reading

Ribbon Reading

Clairvoyant

C&T DOORS & WINDOWS Ltd**SALE NOW ON****ALL AREAS COVERED... ALL AREAS COVERED...****NEW OFFER****French/Patio Doors****FULLY FITTED****from £649****3mtr x 3mtr
EDWARDIAN
CONSERVATORY****from £4500****FULLY FITTED
within 2 weeks****For a service****you can trust****Unlglazed/Glazed
Upvc Doors****from £349****FULLY FITTED****MANY MORE DESIGNS AVAILABLE****• New Improved 10 Point Claw Lock • Steel Reinforced****www.candtdoorsandwindows.co.uk****Tel: 07759 536818 or 01902 842706****email: enquiries@candtdoorsandwindows.co.uk**

New Age/Psychic Reading
Stall opening Times
Mon-Sat 10.00am-4.30pm
Last Reading 4.00pm

• Psychic Reading
• Psychic Drawings
• Tarot Readings
• Angel Card Reading
• Ribbon Reading
• Clairvoyant

Stall 47, King Square, West Bromwich, B70 7NW
Follow us: Facebook.com/showofhands.biz
Twitter: @showofhands123
Website: www.showofhands.biz

Express & Star**Reader Offer
Letters from Father Christmas**

Christmas is the most magical time of year, so deliver some of that magic to someone you love this year!

Imagine the look of delight on your little one's face when they receive their very own personalised letter from Father Christmas!

For just £4.99 they will receive:

- a personalised letter
- good behaviour certificate
- festive colouring picture
- a 'Stop Here' door hanger
- all sent in a Christmas themed envelope



All letters received on or before the 30th November will be sent out on Monday 1st December. All orders thereafter will be posted within 48 hours of receipt, with the 15th of December.

This is how you buy

Buy online at www.personalchristmasletters.co.uk and enter EXP14 in the box "where did you hear about us?"

**Complete the form below and post to:
Personal Christmas Letters, PO Box 348, Bourne PE10 1DU.
Enclose your cheque for £4.99 per child made payable to
Personal Christmas Letters.**

Please complete in CAPS & numbers under a separate sheet if required.

Child's name: _____

Address: _____

Child's name: _____

Phone / Email (should we need to contact you): _____

Ref ID: EXP14

The publishers of this newsletter may contact you regarding relevant offers and competitions.

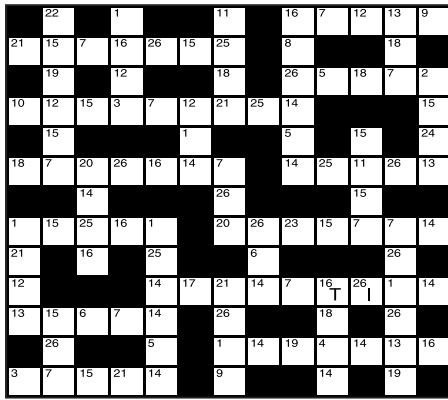
If this is not what you require please tick this box.

If you do not wish to receive any further information from Personal Christmas Letters please tick this box.

www.personalchristmasletters.co.uk

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	E	G	B	H	U	Z	P	A	Y	Q	V	I	R
14	L	X	N	T	M	S	J	F	O	W	K	C	D

Quiz

- Which breed of dog has border and bearded varieties?
- Who wrote the four Claudine novels?
- What nationality was Captain Kidd?
- Which bird is also known as Mother Carey's chicken?
- To which group of islands does Skye belong?
- Which Scottish singer was born Marie Lawrie?
- What is the capital city of Bavaria?
- After which king is US state Georgia named?
- Which premiership football captain received an MBE in the 1994 New Year's Honours List?
- On which US tycoon's life was Citizen Kane based?

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

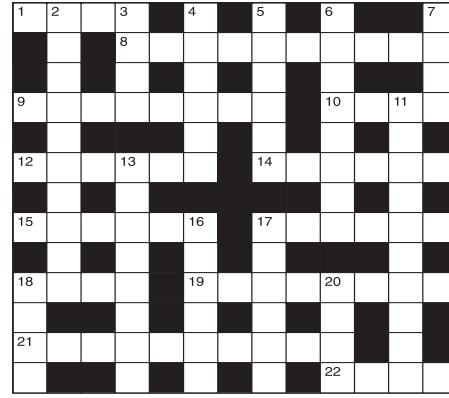
Cryptic Clues:

Across

- Goddess is seen twice (4)
- A certain feeling (10)
- Flinch because of a handicap (8)
- Wise men having different image out East (4)
- Just happened to be wicked (6)
- It's said to be polite (6)
- Depression that shows in your face (6)
- Proceed directly to lead an honest life? (2,8)
- They hold an alternative view of things (6)
- A wise man changes as he grows older (4)
- Conditional statement? (8)
- Overwhelming personalities (10)
- Is not any faster at splitting points (4)

Down

- Cutting down what the pastrycook may need (10)
- Boat takes a doctor from Moscow (4)
- Not off upon a visit, but ready to make one (2,4)
- Improve on casual acquaintance (4,2)
- Bolt many together? (8)
- It turns up after an opponent (4)
- May be made in open court or in camera (8)
- Do some relief work? (6)
- A grease paint allowance, in part (6)
- Half the alphabet studied by physi-cists (4)
- Part of Chelsea seldom free of anxiety (4)
- Female relative (4)



Quick Clues:

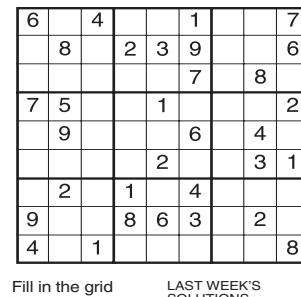
Across

- Appear (4)
- Retort (6,4)
- Infancy (8)
- Tents (4)
- Wheedle (6)
- Ridicule (6)
- Big wave (6)
- Up-to-date (6)
- Cosy (4)
- Penitent (8)
- Neutralise (10)
- Roster (4)

Down

- Digging out (10)
- Numerous (4)
- On land (6)
- Wanted (6)
- Shadowed (8)
- Disregard (4)
- Temperance (10)
- Courteous (8)
- Evil (6)
- Handbook (6)
- III (4)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

3	7	2	8	1	5	9	4	6
6	9	5	7	3	4	1	8	2
4	8	1	9	6	2	5	7	3
1	4	3	6	8	7	2	5	9
7	5	8	3	2	9	6	4	1
9	2	6	4	5	1	8	3	7
2	6	7	1	4	8	3	9	5
8	3	9	5	7	6	4	2	1
5	1	4	2	9	3	7	6	8

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 7 Ochre; 8 Redress; 9 Camelot; 10 Argon; 12 Take a chair; 15 Dumb blonde; 18 Owlet; 19 Tourism; 21 Coniform; 22 Gloss; Down: 1 Touch-and-go; 2 Shame; 3 Dear; 4 Whiffle; 5 Advanced; 6 Belgian; 11 Narrows; miss; 13 Arbitron; 14 Ambling; 16 On time; 17 Pivot; 20 Urge.
QUICK - Across: 7 Maybe; 8 Perfect; 9 Asunder; 10 Avert; 12 Freebooter; 15 Deliberate; 18 Remit; 19 Gentle; 21 Operate; 22 Amiss; Down: 1 Ambassador; 2 Syrup; 3 Mend; 4 Sparse; 5 Breakout; 6 Beneath; 11 Thriftless; 13 Slumber; 14 Regret; 17 Merit; 20 Near.

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

3429 gives an animal,
58763 gives another animal,
1634589 gives a bird.



"Our company is owned and run by local tradesmen meaning the work is carried out properly and on time. We strive to keep our prices as low as possible in order to keep within the budgets of retired, disabled and working families which make up 95% of our customers"

YOUR CHOICE BATHROOMS

THE LOCAL SPECIALIST IN BATHROOM REFURBISHMENT
We want YOUR CHOICE to be us.

EXAMPLE FULL JOB FOR

£3850.00

90x90 Quadrant Cubicle with low level tray
15 SQM Wall Tiles
Tiled Floor
Replacement Shower
New Basin & WC
All Rubbish Removed

WE OFFER A FREE NO OBLIGATION HOME VISIT & ON THE SPOT PRICE WITHIN 48 HRS OF YOUR CALL

EXTRA DISCOUNT FOR OUR RETIRED & DISABLED CUSTOMERS



WE DO THE LOT IN 5 DAYS

THIS WEEKS DISABLED SPECIAL

Are you having problems getting in & out of your Bath
We will remove the Bath & Fit an easy access low level round, square or oblong cubicle, & Tiled inside.

Supply a new replacement shower
A Folding Seat & Grab Rail

**ALL FOR ONLY
£2150.00**

Unit 4, Charterfield Shopping Centre,
Charterfield Drive, Kingswinford, DY6 7SH

01384 287222

Open 9am - 5pm 6 days a week

Showroom also at: Lichfield Road, Wednesfield, Wolverhampton, WV11 1TW. 01902 861908



Hicks Hadley

hickshadley.com
0121 585 6667

Halesowen Office Lettings & Property Management



STOURBRIDGE, Orwell Close £800 pcm - Fees A well presented 3 bedroom semi-detached home featuring kitchen/diner, lounge, 2 double bedrooms and 1 single, family bathroom with shower, garage and car port. This property is also double glazed and centrally heated (both as spec). Viewings highly recommended. EPC: D



HALESOWEN, Longmoor Road £795 pcm - Fees Large 3 bed muckylo style semi-detached property features: 2 reception rooms, 2 double bedrooms (master with fitted wardrobes), 1 single bedroom, modern bathroom with L-shaped bath, garage, driveway parking for multiple vehicles, gas central heating and double glazed. Ideally located for Huntingtree and Lutley Primary School. EPC: D



HALESOWEN, Hagley Road £795 pcm - Fees 1st MONTHS RENT HALF PRICE! An unfurnished detached house within close proximity of Halesowen. Briefly comprising of: 3 Bedrooms, large lounge, fitted kitchen, bathroom with separate w.c., driveway parking & garage, double glazing, gas central heating (new boiler). EPC: D



OLDBURY, The Dingle £775 pcm - Fees 1ST MONTHS RENT HALF PRICE! This detached house is located just off the New Birmingham Road giving easy access to Birmingham, Wolverhampton and M5 motorway. This recently refurbished property features an open plan kitchen/lounge, fitted kitchen with appliances, landing upstairs with enough space to create a study area or relaxation space, 4 large bedrooms, family bathroom with shower, off road parking for several cars, and a large garage. EPC: E



BIRMINGHAM, Orion Building £775 pcm - Fees 1ST MONTHS RENT FREE! A fantastic opportunity to rent a fully furnished apartment in the heart of Birmingham City Centre. This 1 bed modern property overlooking the Mailbox features open plan living with luxury kitchen with 24 hour concierge service, secure parking, double glazed and electric heating. Viewings highly recommended. EPC: TBC



AMBLECOTE, 41a High Street £769 pcm - Fees A fantastic opportunity to buy a new build home on a sitesel development. Features of 3 generous size bedrooms (master with en-suite) finished to an exceptional standard. Features spacious lounge/dining areas, well appointed kitchen, downstairs WC, 3 bedrooms with family bathrooms & master bedroom with en-suite, 2 allocated parking spaces, front & rear gardens. These homes will not be available for long. EPC: TBC



HALESOWEN, Stourbridge Road £750 pcm - Fees Well presented 3 bedroom semi-detached house with large driveway for multiple cars in this very popular residential area. Entrance Hall leading to large living room/dining area, fitted kitchen, large private rear garden with open fields at the top, 3 bedrooms, family bathroom and garage. EPC: E



ROWLEY REGIS, Spring Vale Road £650 pcm - Fees 1ST MONTHS RENT HALF PRICE! An opportunity to acquire a well maintained traditional semi-detached property situated in a popular residential location. A cul-de-sac leading to the property and benefits from a large living room, fitted kitchen with a double range cooker, W.C. 2 double & 1 single bedroom/study, bathroom with shower, driveway/garage. A lovely property not to be missed. Minimum contract 12 months. EPC: D



KINGSWINFORD, Camberley Road £650 pcm - Fees A very well presented 3 bed semi-detached property located on the popular High Acres Estate and benefits from an enclosed rear garden, a large living room, fitted kitchen with a double range cooker, W.C. 2 double & 1 single bedroom/study, bathroom with shower, driveway/garage. Available immediately. EPC: D



HALESOWEN, Wroxley House £625 pcm - Fees Luxury living in Haye Green. This superb luxury ground floor apartment offering spacious accommodation including open plan lounge/kitchen and diner with patio doors, 2 double bedrooms, master with en-suite, a further well appointed bathroom with shower, gas central heating, double glazing and allocated parking. EPC: B



HALESOWEN, Linnet Close £575 pcm - Fees Desirable cul-de-sac location. Situated in a very popular area of the Lodgefield Estate with easy access for Halesowen and Cradley Heath, this unfurnished semi-detached house features gas central heating, spacious living room, fitted breakfast kitchen with appliances, 2 bedrooms with 1 having wardrobes, modern bathroom with shower, front & rear gardens and driveway parking. EPC: E



HALESOWEN, Talbot Street £575 pcm - Fees Step inside this fantastic 3 bedroom terrace property. Renovated throughout within the last 6 months to a very high standard, featuring 2 great size reception rooms, modern fitted kitchen, fully tiled bathroom with electric shower, gas central heating system. EPC: E



HALESOWEN, Haden Arch Court £575 pcm - Fees 1ST MONTHS RENT HALF PRICE! Contemporary living in Halesowen. This 1st floor spacious apartment above the archway, within walking distance to Halesowen Town Centre and buses, the apartment features gas central heating, double glazing, open plan living room/fitted kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, bathroom with separate shower cubicle, allocated parking. EPC: B



HALESOWEN, Olive Hill Road £550 pcm - Fees This well presented 2 bed end terrace property features: 2 reception rooms, fitted kitchen with appliances, 2 double bedrooms and family bathroom, double glazing and gas central heating. Ideal for Olive Lane Primary School and also within walking distance to Blackheath Town Centre. Available now. EPC: E



CRADLEY HEATH, Station Road £550 pcm - Fees A newly decorated & carpeted 3 bedroom mid terraced house in a popular location minutes away from Old Hill train station. This spacious property has 2 reception rooms, downstairs walk in shower room, modern fitted kitchen, 2 double bedrooms & 1 single. Private rear garden. On road parking. EPC: E



ROWLEY REGIS, Glaslyn Avenue £540 pcm - Fees Immaculately presented modern 2 bed ground floor apartment within walking distance to Blackheath Town Centre and bus routes. Features include gas central heating, double glazing, double bedrooms, family bathroom, master bedroom with fitted wardrobes and ensuite, allocated parking, double glazing and electric heating. Viewings highly recommended. EPC: D



WORDSLY, Brook Street £525 pcm - Fees An unfinshed end terraced house, refurbished and extended comprising of: gas central heating, double glazing, lounge, fitted kitchen, 2 large bedrooms, bathroom with shower, rear garden, on road parking. Available now. Short term let for 6 months, possibly longer. EPC: C



HALESOWEN, Wright Street £525 pcm - Fees Close to Halesowen Town Centre and Tenterfields Primary School. This end terraced house features gas central heating, double glazing, double bedrooms, family bathroom, rear garden, on road parking. Available now. Short term let for 6 months, possibly longer. EPC: E



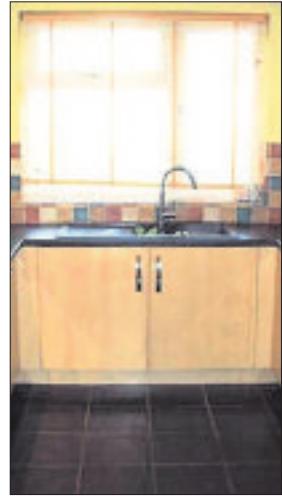
CRADLEY HEATH, Wycherley Court £475 pcm - Fees A well presented unfurnished ground floor apartment briefly comprising: living room, 1 double bedroom with fitted wardrobes and 1 single bedroom, bathroom with shower. Benefits include gas central heating, double glazing, communal gardens, parking space. Close to local amenities. EPC: C



CRADLEY HEATH, Hingley Court £460 pcm - Fees 1ST MONTHS RENT FREE! Freshly redecorated and in the centre of Old Hill. This lovely ground floor apartment features an open plan lounge/kitchen with a washer/dryer and a small fridge. 2 large double bedrooms, modern bathroom with shower, 1 double bedroom, bathroom with shower, double glazing, communal gardens, on road parking, unfurnished. EPC: TBC

PROPERTY

Extended four-bedroom home ideal for a family



THIS four-bedrommed semi in West Park Road, Bearwood, has had a £30,000 price reduction.

It is for sale through Bairstow Eves at £275,000. It has central heating and double glazing. There is a porch, entrance hall and reception room with bay window, the rear reception room has patio doors to the garden, a feature fireplace with gas fire. The modern kitchen/diner has light wood-effect units, gas hob, double oven and dishwasher. There is a corner bath and walk-in double shower.

Contact Bairstow Eves on 0121 5444554 or visit www.bairstoweves.co.uk website.



Three-bed semi with no chain has wow factor



AN extended three-bedroomed semi-detached property in Monmouth Road, Smethwick has a the wow factor with contemporary open plan ground floor living.

It is for sale through Robert Oulsnam at a new price of £264,950 with no chain.

Having an exceptional open plan dining kitchen with living space with French-style patio doors, it also has a porch, entrance hall, under-stairs storage, three bedrooms, a stylish bathroom, driveway and rear garden.

The property is conveniently situated within Bearwood, close to High Street amenities. Warley Woods, Lightwoods Park and Warley Woods Golf Course are all near by, as is Lightwoods Primary School.

Contact Robert Oulsnam on 0121 429 9986 or visit www.oulsnam.net



Country residence has been rebuilt and improved



DETACHED country home, Greenacres, at Buckeridge, Bewdley, is set in a private position in parkland gardens of over an acre.

It is for sale through Allan Morris & Co at £545,000.

It has four good bedrooms, (two en suite), a 19ft x 16in lounge, new orangery, dining room, breakfast kitchen, shower room and utility, bathroom, a detached double garage with annexe accommodation above and a detached garden room.

Greenacres was rebuilt some 25 years ago and considerably improved. It has a sweeping driveway approach with wrought iron security gates. The detached double garage comes with first floor annex accommodation currently arranged as a guest suite with spacious L-shaped double bedroom and en-suite shower room.

For further information call Allan Morris & Co on 01562 747755 or visit www.allan-morris.co.uk



Six-bedroom home in a popular village

BEECH House, 46a Pinwoods Avenue, in the popular village of Hagley, is a six-bedroom detached house with views over fields at the rear.

It is for sale through The Lee Shaw Partnership at £599,999. Accommodation arranged on three levels includes six double bedrooms with the two second floor bedrooms. It has gas fired heating with under floor heating on the ground floor, oak flooring to the principal reception rooms and entrance hall, Canadian oak fronted kitchen fittings with granite work surfaces, a conservatory, house bathroom, two en-suites, and double glazed windows. Contact The Lee Shaw Partnership on 01562 888111 or visit www.leeshaw.com website.



humberstones homes

0121 678 7788

www.humberstoneshomes.co.uk



EXTENDED detached family home with LARGE PRIVATE rear garden. 18ft extended lounge & separate dining room. Extended 15ft breakfast kitchen. 19ft utility & downstairs shower room & WC. REFITTED family bathroom, 4 bedrooms & box room on 1st floor. GARAGE & BLOCKPAVED driveway. UPVC DG & gas central heating. EPC rating: D Ref: D1464
£269,950 Ref: D1464



EXTENDED 5 bed home refurbished to a HIGH STANDARD. NO UPWARD CHAIN. 25ft REFITTED kitchen diner. REFITTED d/s shower room & separate utility. 18ft lounge to front. 5 GOOD SIZE bedrooms. REFITTED family bathroom & REFITTED separate shower room. DRIVEWAY to front & extensive gardens to rear. UPVC DG & GCH fitted. EPC rating: C Ref: D1427
£255,000 Ref: D1527



• NO UPWARD CHAIN • SPACIOUS DETACHED FAMILY HOME. Set back from the road in private drive - LANDSCAPED REAR GARDEN WITH SOUTHERLY ASPECT. 20ft lounge, dining room, kitchen, conservatory & D/WC. 3 bedrooms & bathroom. Driveaway with parking, carport and garage. Double glazing, GCH. EPC rating: D Ref: D1487
£249,950 Ref: D1487



• MUST BE VIEWED • EXTENDED 5 bed home with DRIVEWAY to front for several vehicles. EXTENDED & REFITTED 25ft breakfast kitchen with appliances and REFITTED 14ft lounge. 2 ATIC ROOMS on 1st floor. Gas central heating & majority UPVC DG. GARAGE & driveway giving off road parking. EPC rating: C Ref: D1480
£244,950 Ref: D1480



NO UPWARD CHAIN - SPACIOUS DETACHED BUNGALOW in need of some improvement. 2 DOUBLE bedrooms both with en-suite WCs. 21 ft kitchen diner, separate utility room & 14ft lounge. 2 ATIC ROOMS on 1st floor. Gas central heating & majority UPVC DG. GARAGE & driveway giving off road parking. EPC rating: D Ref: D1515
£224,950 Ref: D1515



NO UPWARD CHAIN. OLDBURY/QUINTON BORDER - Traditional semi-detached QUINTON BORDER. REFITTED kitchen & 2 reception rooms. REFITTED bathroom. 3 bedrooms. Large rear garden & driveway giving plenty of off road parking. LAWN garden to rear. Gas central heating & majority UPVC double glazing. CLOSE HAGLEY ROAD. EPC rating: D Ref: D1509
£172,500 Ref: D1509



MUCH IMPROVED 3 bed semi with off road parking. REFITTED BREAKFAST KITCHEN & well proportioned lounge, utility room & d/s WC. UPVC CONSERVATORY to rear (20ft). 3 bedrooms & refitted family bathroom. BLOCKPAVED leading to front for multiple vehicles. LOW MAINTENANCE rear garden with SUNNY ASPECT. UPVC DG & GCH. EPC Rating D Ref: D1315
£164,950 Ref: D1315



NO CHAIN - EXTENDED semi detached home with block paved DRIVEWAY. 27FT lounge diner, kitchen & side verandah/utility area. 3 bedrooms & refitted family bathroom. Enclosed rear garden with vehicular access. UPVC double glazing & gas central heating. Situated in popular residential area. EPC rating: D Ref: D1470
£139,950 Ref: D1470



SPERB terraced home with DRIVEWAY for up to 6 cars on the front!! REFITTED 11ft breakfast kitchen, utility area and 21ft lounge diner. 3 good sized bedrooms on 1st floor & family bathroom with WHITE SUITE. UPVC double glazing & gas central heating fitted. Lawn rear garden with patio. EPC rating: D Ref: D1523
£129,950 Ref: D1523



NO UPWARD CHAIN - Terraced home with DRIVEWAY to front. 14ft lounge & 13ft kitchen diner. FULLY FITTED ground floor wet room & UPVC conservatory to rear. 3 bedrooms & bathroom on 1st floor. Gas central heating & majority UPVC double glazing fitted. EPC rating: D Ref: D1528
£110,000 Ref: D1528



SPACIOUS ground floor apartment with PARKING to rear. Occupying a cul-de-sac position in MODERN RESIDENTIAL close to Shops and Amenities. Open plan LIVING AREA with integrated diner and kitchen. Master bedroom with fitted wardrobes, second bedroom & bathroom. Modern electric heating, UPVC DG & ALARM, SECURE INTERCOM ENTRY SYSTEM. EPC Rating C Ref: D1251
£91,950 Ref: D1251



UNFURNISHED - AVAILABLE NOW - SPACIOUS mid terrace with parking. Lounge, 21ft kitchen/diner. RECENTLY REFURBED bathroom. 2 bedrooms & box room on second floor and master bedroom on the third floor. Enclosed rear garden. Majority UPVC DG & gas central heating. NO DSS, NO SMOKERS, PETS CONSIDERED. EPC Rating D - Subject to admin fee of £100 per tenant. DL182
£600 PCM Ref: DL182

New Mondeo in the comfort zone

By Matt Joy

Ford has finally released its new Mondeo. Despite the looks, it is all-new. It concentrates on comfort more than before, and it has a range of new engines to cut emissions and improve fuel economy. Prime among these are new 1.0-litre turbo petrol and 1.5-litre turbodiesel motors that bring a new wave of downsizing to the family car class.

There are fewer dash buttons to come to terms with and Ford now fits a large touchscreen to operate many functions. On top of this, Ford's Sync2 voice control system lets the driver change settings with simple commands while keeping both hands on the steering wheel.

At first glance, you could be forgiven for thinking the new fifth generation Ford Mondeo is not much more than a face-lifted version of the previous car. The overall silhouette is much the same, as is much of the rear-end style.

However, the slimmer headlights give a sleeker look that will be key to the Mondeo clawing back sales from the likes of the Audi A4 and BMW 3 Series that have

'As for the boot, the hatch's is large and the estate's is cavernous'

proved so popular with their premium im-

ages. If the Mondeo is not seen as quite as premium as those rivals from Audi and BMW, it easily betters them for cabin space and load lugging.

Most UK buyers will opt for the Mondeo hatch or estate, with only the Hybrid version available as a saloon.

Wealth

There is masses of room in the rear and there is a wealth of adjustment to fine-tune the driving position which includes electric seat height adjustment. As for the boot, the hatch's is large and the estate's is cavernous.

Ford has made a conscious effort to make the new Mondeo an even more comfortable car than its predecessor. This means the new car's suspension has a little more compliance that translates into a

superbly smooth ride over any type of road surface.

Refinement is also top drawer, so the Mondeo is a class leader for hushed long-distance travel. The 2.0-litre turbodiesel can be a touch gruff at low revs, but settles into the background at speed, while the other engines are quiet and pull cleanly.

While more refined, the Mondeo retains its ability to hustle through corners with composed ease, though the new car's steering is not quite as alert as the old model's.

Starting at £20,795 for the hatch and £23,795 for the estate, the Mondeo is not as keenly priced as its arch-rival, the Vauxhall Insignia. However, the Mondeo compensates with a generous level of equipment that includes digital radio, climate control, cruise control, hill start assist, alloy wheels on all models and Ford's 8in Sync2 touchscreen.

Ford may have lost sales ground to its premium rivals, but the bulk of sales for the new Mondeo will still come from company car drivers.

Carbon dioxide emissions that dip below 100g/km and up to 78.5mpg average economy will appeal to business users and private buyers alike.

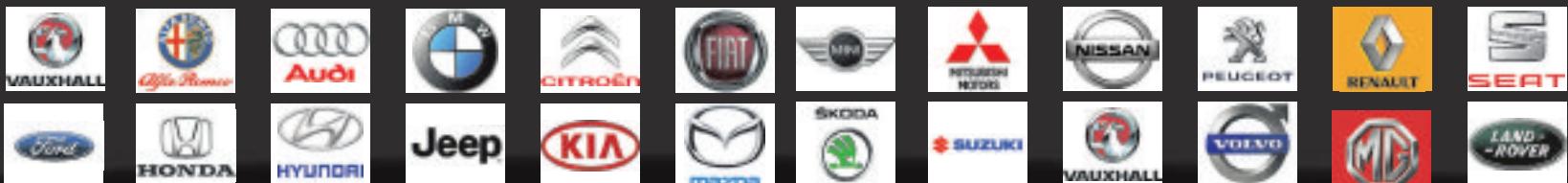
Crucially, the Mondeo is keenly priced compared to its premium rivals from Germany, though it's hard to see many UK buyers abandoning their premium-badged saloons for a Mondeo hatch.



Express & Star

VIRTUAL MOTORSHOW

Thousands have already flocked to the Show!
...have you?



Review your new car by video before you test drive!



DRIVING EXPERIENCE - COST OF OWNERSHIP

- DESIGN & BUILD - RANGE

- Video reviews
- Dealership information
- Latest manufacturer offers

expressandstar.com/drivetime



Pitching up an octave

By David Banner

You can trace the Skoda success story of the last couple of decades back to the original launch of one model: this one – the Octavia.

Right from its very first appearance in 1996, this has been a car that's always super-sized its value proposition, offering more space than the class norm. For first and second generation versions, that class saw competition amongst Focus and Astra-class family hatchbacks. This MK3 model though, has taken a step up in the world, virtually big enough to compete with Mondeos and Insignias in the larger medium range segment.

An Octavia then, that's larger than ever before – and cleverer too – as it has to be to distance itself from the simpler, smaller Rapid model that hit the market a few months before this car arrived in the spring of 2013.

The Rapid is the car to choose for Skoda motoring as it used to be, light on frills and cutting-edge technology but solid, reliable, value-laden and built to last. This Octavia, in contrast, is more a signpost to a direction the Czech brand wants to go in the future: one that shares the very latest technology with more luxurious brands in the Volkswagen Group stable.

As with the Volkswagen Golf and the SEAT Leon, the German engineers who created this car took a pragmatic approach to driving dynamics, deciding that drivers opting for lower order engines wouldn't care too much about cutting-edge handling response. So the sophisticated multilink rear suspension is reserved for the performance-oriented vRS models, the

most powerful of which uses the 2.0-litre TSI petrol unit borrowed from the Golf GTI.

Here though, we're focusing on the mainstream variants that most Octavia customers will be considering. Most customers will opt for either the 1.2-litre TSI petrol model or the 1.6 TDI diesel we tried, both engines putting out 105PS. There's also a frugal 'Greenline' version of the 1.6 TDI, offering up 110PS.

None of these variants feels very fast but you can perk things up a bit by recourse to the kind of hi-tech intervention you simply wouldn't expect to find on a family-minded Skoda of this sort: 'Driving Mode Selection'.

Simply use the infotainment touchscreen to select between 'normal', 'sport' and 'eco' driving settings, depending upon the kind of progress you want to make.

Mainstream

You'll certainly enjoy all of this more at the wheel of one of the pokier mainstream variants, either the 140PS petrol TSI 1.4 or the 150PS diesel TDI 2.0-litre.

Skoda people will probably quite like the fact that the look and feel of this car is very similar to its predecessor. The similarities persist despite the difference in size: this car is 90mm longer and 45mm wider than its predecessor, making it all the more impressive that it also manages to be up to 102kgs lighter. But it's when you lift the heavy bootlid that you get a feel for what this car is really all about. It's absolutely huge, the 590-litre load area you reach over a notably low lip 28mm longer and 125-litres bigger than before. There's 610-litres if you go for the Octavia estate model.

Has all this been achieved at the expense of rear seat occupants? No.



'This MK3 model though, has taken a step up in the world, virtually big enough to compete with Mondeos and Insignias in the larger medium range segment.'

The two bodystyles – hatch and estate – are mated with 1.2, 1.4 or 2.0-litre petrol power or one of the 1.6 or 2.0-litre diesels and there's the choice of four main trim levels – S, SE, Elegance and vRS.

Whichever one you choose, your car will come with alloy wheels, tinted glass, climate-controlled air conditioning that also cools the glovebox, a height-adjustable driver's seat, a four-spoke leather-covered steering wheel, a trip computer, an eight-speaker stereo with a DAB digital radio and USB and AUX-in sockets and a hill holder clutch that stops you from drifting backwards on uphill junctions.

At the bottom end of the line-up, the

alternative, with the same 105PS output, is the 1.2-litre TSI petrol model, a variant that might even work out cheaper over the short term given its lesser asking price and use of cheaper green pump fuel.

That's thanks to a combined cycle return of 57.7mpg and a CO₂ reading of 114g/km.

These are figures that fall to 53.3mpg and 121g/km if you opt for the 140PS petrol 1.4. Opt for the pokier 150PS 2.0-litre TDI diesel and you can expect 68.9mpg and 106g/km of CO₂.

A Skoda in fact that can do everything you'd expect a comparable Audi to do – at a substantial price saving.



Halesowen Autos

Quality Used Cars At Great Prices



08/58 Range Rover Sport HSE TDV8 Diesel Auto
60k, White, Alloys, Leather, Sat Nav, Rear TV's
£24995



09/09 Mini 1.6 Cooper
66k, Silver with Black Roof, Alloys,
Air Con, CD Player
£6795 / £39 Per Week



10/10 Ford Focus 1.6 Zetec AUTOMATIC
3dr, 35k, Blue, Alloys, Air Con, CD, EWindows
£6295 / £36 Per Week



08/58 Alfa Romeo MiTo 1.6 JTDM Lusso Diesel,
54k Red, Leather, Alloys, Air Con, CD
£5995 / £35 Per Week



08/08 Suzuki SX4 1.6 GLX
ONLY 16k MILES, Silver, Alloys, Air Con, CD
£5995 / £35 Per Week



08/08 Saab 9-3 Vector Sport DTH Diesel
Automatic Estate
80k, Grey, Two Tone Leather, Alloys
£5995 / £35 Per Week



03/03 Audi TT Roadster 1.8T Convertible
ONLY 58/69 MILES, Black, Alloy Wheels, Air Con
£5495 / £33 Per Week



10/10 Ford Transit 115 T300L FWD
Red, Side door, High Roof, Ply lined
£5295 / £26 Per Week



09/09 Vauxhall Corsa 1.3 SXI CDTi Diesel
3dr, 52k, Grey Metallic, Alloys, Air Con
£4995 / £31 Per Week



07/07 Renault Kangoo 1.6 Expression Automatic
ONLY 37k MILES, Red,
E/Windows
£4695 / £27 Per Week



08/08 Fiat Panda 1.4
100hp, 39k, *LOW INSURANCE*
Black, Alloys, Air Con, CD
£4495 / £26 Per Week



08/08 Volkswagen Polo 1.2 E, *ONLY 28k
MILES*, *LOW INSURANCE* Silver, CD
£4495 / £26 Per Week



08/08 Fiat Bravo 1.4 Dynamic
50k, Red, Alloys, Air Con, CD Player
£4195 / £24 Per Week



07/07 Suzuki Swift 1.3 GL one owner
47k, Burnt Orange, CD Player, E/Windows
£3995 / £22 Per Week



05/05 Vauxhall Astra Club 1.6 Twinport
Semi-Automatic
Blue, 50k, Alloys, Air Con
£3295 / £22 Per Week



05/05 Ford Fusion 2 1.4 16v
49k, Blue Metallic, Air Con, CD, E/Windows
£2695 / £15 Per Week



02/02 Vauxhall Astra 1.6 LS
ONLY 27k MILES, Silver, Air Con, CD,
E/Windows
£1995 / £18 Per Week



1994/M Honda C90 Cub Economy 90
Electric Start Semi-Automatic
ORIGINAL CONDITION 7k, Red/White
£1795

Express Repairs for Minor Accident Damage



✓ Bumper scuffs



✓ Kerbed alloys



✓ Paintwork scratches



✓ Dented panels



ChipsAway

Scratches and scuffs won't dent your pocket



star extra TRAVEL

For brochures please call the Promotions Team on (01902) 319999
(Mon to Fri, 9am to 5pm) or go to expressandstar.com/starextratravel

Austrian Tyrol and Innsbruck

Eight days selected departures 2015



PRICE FROM £969

Experience some of the world's most breathtaking alpine scenery whilst staying in the charming village of Seefeld - a perfect spot from which to explore the varied highlights of the Tyrol.

Just a short drive away is the Tyrolean capital of Innsbruck where a guided tour of this delightful city will introduce some of the historic architecture. See the famous Golden Roof, St Jakob's cathedral and the former Imperial Palace.

Head back in time, during the journey to Jenbach, on the Achenseebahn narrow gauge railway as it winds its way into the hills from the Inn Valley up to the Achensee Lake. The coal-fired locomotives are amongst the world's oldest and use rack assistance to surmount the steep gradient. A visit is then made to the historic village of Rattenburg, the Tyrol's smallest municipality, with its medieval stone buildings and narrow streets.

A drive into nearby Bavaria leads to one of Germany's most famous monuments - Neuschwanstein Castle, with its impressive architecture and an inspiration for so many stories, where there is a guided tour.

The spa town of Merano, with its Belle Époque buildings and fine gardens set between the high mountain peaks, along with the regions capital Bolzano, which boasts many castles and fortified buildings, a historic centre and gothic cathedral, are both on the itinerary of the Italian Tyrol tour.

PRICE INCLUDES

- Return flights
- Seven nights half-board accommodation
- Guided sightseeing tour of Innsbruck
- Entrance and guided tour of Stams Monastery and Neuschwanstein Castle
- Journey on the Achensee Cog Steam Railway
- Tour of the Italian Tyrol visiting Bolzano and Merano
- Visit to Rattenburg
- See the Ötztal valley glaciers
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Riviera Travel (ABTA V4744, ATOL 3430)

Pick
of the
week

STAR EXTRA TRAVEL, the travel department of the Express & Star, offers a wide range of short breaks and holidays. For your security, our tour operators are members of ABTA - the Travel Association and hold an ATOL (Air Travel Organisers Licence) for holidays by air. Prices are per person (unless otherwise stated). Please note Star Extra Travel is unable to take bookings over the telephone. Please read brochures/web pages for full description plus terms and conditions. Dates subject to availability. Coach pick up points offered: Dudley, Shrewsbury, Telford, Walsall and Wolverhampton (with the exception of holidays by air, Eurostar and certain cruises).

Windsor Castle and Treasures from the Royal Archive

Two days departing January 21

PRICE FROM £119

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Visit to Windsor Castle and Treasures from the Royal Archives exhibition
- Visit to St Albans
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

Florimania at Hampton Court Palace

Two days departing March 14

PRICE FROM £109

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Entrance to Hampton Court Palace and gardens for Florimania
- Visit to Windsor
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

Bath and Oxford

Buy one get one free

Two days departing March 22

PRICE FROM £155

- Return coach travel
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation
- Visit to Oxford
- Visit to Bath
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

Jersey For single travellers

Five days departing March 23

PRICE FROM £349

- Return flights
- Four nights half-board accommodation
- Return airport to hotel transfers in Jersey
- Welcome drink on arrival
- Half day island tour
- Dinner dance with entertainment
- No single room supplement

Organised by Modern Hotels (ABTA V3101, ATOL 0752)

Emmerdale Country and the Best of Yorkshire

Three days departing May 1, Jun 19, Sep 25

PRICE FROM £159

- Return coach travel
- Two nights half-board accommodation
- Tours of Emmerdale and the Yorkshire Dales
- Short tour of Last of the Summer Wine country
- Visit to Holmfirth
- Visit to York
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Promotions (ABTA V787X)

The Crown Jewels and Thames Dinner Cruise

Two days departing May 17 and Sept 20

PRICE FROM £169

- Return coach travel
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation
- Entrance to the Tower of London including the Crown Jewels exhibition
- Evening cruise on the River Thames including a hot two-course buffet dinner with a glass of wine
- Free time in London
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Promotions (ABTA V787X)

Strawberry Fields Penny Lane and the Cavern Club

Three days departing May 29 and Sep 19

PRICE FROM £179

- Return coach travel
- Two nights half-board accommodation
- Beatles coach tour and entrance to the Cavern Club
- Journey on the Ferry 'cross the Mersey
- Free time in Liverpool
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Promotions (ABTA V787X)

In Search of the Northern Lights

Evening excursion departing January 21, February 16 and 18

PRICE FROM £199.95

- Pre-flight illustrated presentation by expert astronomers
- Flight in search of the Northern Lights of 3-3 ¾ hours
- Services of the astronomers on board
- Light refreshments on board
- Services of a tour manager

Organised by Omega Holidays (ABTA V4782, ATOL 6081)

Carcassonne, Avignon and Provence

Six days various departure dates 2015

PRICE FROM £449

- Return flights
- Five nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Guided walking tour and time to explore Carcassonne
- Full day visit to Avignon and the Roman Pont du Gard
- Canal du Midi cruise
- All coaching in France
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Air Holidays (ABTA V7812, ATOL 2325)

Krakow

Four days various departure dates 2015

PRICE FROM £419

- Return flights
- Three nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Guided walking sightseeing tour of Krakow
- Visit to Wawel, the castle district
- Visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau (included but optional)
- Optional tour of the Salt Mines
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Riviera Travel (ABTA V4744, ATOL 3430)

Lake Garda Venice and Verona

Eight days various departure dates 2015

PRICE FROM £629

- Return flights
- Seven nights half-board accommodation
- Tour of Lake Garda
- Guided sightseeing tours of Venice and Verona
- Tour of the Dolomites (with an optional cable car ride payable locally)
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Riviera Travel (ABTA V4744, ATOL 3430)



Classified Ads

Buy Local, Sell Local

funeral directors

N.E.DOWNING
(Blackheath) Ltd

Independent family run Funeral Directors
24 hour service
Halesowen 0121 422 2794

www.nedowning.co.uk

funeral services


BIRMINGHAM ST MARY'S HOSPICE
welcomes collections to support our vital work.
All donations will help us to care for more local families living with terminal illness.
For more information on how to support your hospice, please go to www.birminghamhospice.org.uk or call 0121 472 1191
Reg. charity number: 503456

lost & found

LOST - Mottled brown Rabbit,
Northway area of Sedgley.
Reward for safe return.
01902 671877 or 07762 525668.

1 Family

baby needs

MAMAS AND PAPAS twin buggy, raincover. Good condition. £50.00. 07767 158397.

elderly & disabled

BARGAIN!
MOBILITY SCOOTER
Excellent condition.
4 wheels.
Folds into boot.
Can deliver free if local.
£295.
07508 311029.

DOUBLE SIZE electric bed, lifts each side separately, can split into single, £225. 07506 660317.

FreeAds
IT'S FREE, IT'S EASY
For items upto £250.
Online at www.expressandstar.com/bookanad

holiday feature

MASSIVE STATIC CARAVAN SALE

Huge reductions.
All sales include
SITE FEES PAID FOR 2015.
Sited on Ty Mawr Holiday Park, in North Wales.
Live Entertainment, swimming pool and lots more.
All Part-Exchanges welcome.
Call 01745 822373 for more information

3 Home & Services

furniture

LEATHER RECLINERS

Direct from the factory

Biggest Selection-Lowest Prices

Open this Sunday
10 - 4pm

Recliner
Sofas from
£379

Tilt & Lift Mobility Chairs from £499

BFC FACTORY OUTLET -

CONVEYOR ROAD IND EST, GREAT BRIDGE RD, TIPTON DY4 7RG, 2 MINS FROM NEW TESCO & TOBY CARVERY

0121 557 6885 VISA

OPEN 7 DAYS - MON-SAT 10-6, SUN 10-4.

MUST BE SEEN

CREAM GUSTAVIAN CORNER UNIT

Top half glazed, very ornate.
Beautiful piece of furniture.

Cost £700.

Send £250.

Telephone: 01299 400516.

MUST BE SEEN

OVAL EXTENDING multi-garny dining table, claw feet, four chairs, two canvers, very good condition, £60.00. 01902 845202.

2 Leisure Time

caravans / motorhomes

A BEAUTIFUL PARK near Ludlow. Immaculate caravans from £10,000. Why go further? 01584 823433.

COMPASS RALLYE
2003, 19ft, 4 berth, end bathroom, fixed bed, hot / cold water, fly nets, blinds, full oven and fridge, toilet, awning and extras, excellent condition, £4,600 ono.

07799 564288.

SECURE CARAVAN AND MOTORHOME STORAGE AVAILABLE IN KIDDERMINSTER AREA
Reasonable rates
Call: 07943 512614

caravans wanted

ALL CARAVANS WANTED
Any Age or Condition
CASH
WAITING
Immediate collection
Call Bob on 07787 833833

sports & leisure

CALLAWAY BIG Bertha golf clubs x 9, left hand, graphite shafts, trolley made, Burner Driver, trolley bag, 01384 528354, 07968 231553.

FreeAds

IT'S FREE, IT'S EASY
For items upto £250.
Online at www.expressandstar.com/bookanad

holiday feature

MASSIVE STATIC CARAVAN SALE

Huge reductions.
All sales include
SITE FEES PAID FOR 2015.

Sited on Ty Mawr Holiday Park, in North Wales.
Live Entertainment, swimming pool and lots more.

All Part-Exchanges welcome.

Call 01745 822373 for more information

in your garden

Top Soil, Building Sand Paving/Concrete Sand Decorative Gravels Delivered Bagged or Loose
01902 893226

items for sale

BIG IN BEDS
1/2 PRICE SALE
Direct from our Factory

Huge Choice of Mattresses: Singles from £29. Doubles from £49. Kings £99 - Ottoman storage bed frames £199. Bunk bed frames £99. 100's of Fashion bed frames in metal and shwood - Biggest Choice, Lowest Prices. 100's of Sofa beds and Sofas from £199 - Suites from £299. Leather Sofas from £199.

BFC FACTORY OUTLET - CONVEYOR ROAD IND EST, GREAT BRIDGE RD, TIPTON DY4 7RG, 2 MINS FROM NEW TESCO & TOBY CARVERY
0121 557 6885 VISA
OPEN 7 DAYS - MON-SAT 10-6, SUN 10-4.

GENERATOR for sale, petrol 2.5 kVA, £80. 07970 024953.

items wanted

READERS ARE ADVISED to carefully consider all of their options before agreeing to the sale of any of their items.

A BEST CASH PRICE PAID FOR DIE CAST CARS / LORRIES / TOY SOLDIERS
Air fix, Britains, Corgi, Dinky, Spot on, Tri-ang.
Best prices paid.
Any condition.
Collections bought.

Telephone 01922 721707 or 07976 691563.

blinds

AB-Blinds
Super 6
6 Child Save Verticals Fitted from only £169
Call 0800 0347111

ALL BOXED / LOOSE RAILWAY COLLECTIONS WANTED ANY GAUGE OR AGE

Also live steam, also Diecast, Dinky, Corgi, Spot On. Guaranteed top cash prices paid!!

0121 602 2569/07891 713547. thetrainmaster67@hotmail.com

building services

DAVIES & SON BUILDERS All types of building work. Extending, Plastering, etc. 07473 135856, 07463 849342.

carpet & upholstery cleaning

A CLASS CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

OAP discount. Recession Prices.

Unbeatable Value: Rooms cleaned from £10

Call Paul 07870 341089

MUST BE SEEN

CREAM GUSTAVIAN CORNER UNIT

Top half glazed, very ornate.

Beautiful piece of furniture.

Cost £700.

Send £250.

Telephone: 01299 400516.

MUST BE SEEN

OVAL EXTENDING multi-garny dining table, claw feet, four chairs, two canvers, very good condition, £60.00. 01902 845202.

t.v. / home entertainment

service

AERIAL & TV SPECIALISTS
Free Estimates on TV Repairs, Plasma, LCD, 3D, LED, Projection. All areas covered & till late, 7 days. Digital aerials, Sky installation. Wall mounts & TV setups.

07850 330251

specialists at your service

aerials

AA DIGITAL AERIALS
1 aerial into 2 rooms £85
1 aerial into 4 rooms £125

Work Guaranteed Same Day Service

01902 858191

01384 429166

01543 439095

01922 716029

07833 738857

alarms/security

PREMIER ALARMS
Supplied and Fitted £195
Servicing and Repairs
12 Months Warranty
All areas covered
All quotes beaten!

Call: 0121 601 9791

blinds

AB-Blinds
Super 6
6 Child Save Verticals Fitted from only £169
Call 0800 0347111

builders

C & M BUILDERS All types of building work. Extending, Plastering, etc. 07473 135856, 07463 849342.

carpet & upholstery cleaning

A CLASS CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING
OAP discount. Recession Prices.

Unbeatable Value: Rooms cleaned from £10

Call Paul 07870 341089

house clearances

painters / decorators

MTK PAINTER & DECORATOR-Competitive quotes. OAP discounts 01384 340930/ 07825 558940.

removals

able removals

Local & Distance Domestic & Commercial Competitive Prices.

Moves from only £99

Call 07870 341089

A & M CHEAP REMOVALS

Local Careful Firm

Full or Part loads

Call Don:

0800 587 0377

or 07749 941319

A MAN WITH A VAN

Single items, clearances, clearances, local/nationwide, etc.

0722 2999 or 07815 043724

CALL PETE - MAN WITH A VAN

Removals, clearances, items large or small. Call: 01902 741546 or 07899 635852

ClassifiedAds

kitchens

LOW COST KITCHENS

HIGH QUALITY 18mm CABINETS AS STANDARD

SOFT CLOSE HINGES FREE OF CHARGE

KITCHENS FROM £499 - NEVER BEATEN ON PRICE

FREE MEASURE AND DESIGN SERVICE

CALL NOW FOR A FREE QUOTE 0121 2888003

SPEEDY KITCHENS, JOHN STREET, WILLenhall, WS12 1PW

SPEEDY KITCHENS, EPIGD STREET, SHELTON, ST7 4EJ

reclaimed materials



Trade Suppliers of Traditional Reclaimed Building Materials

Demolition services available

Reclaimed tile, slate and brick bought and sold.

Tel: 01384 234592

Mobile: 07896 059141

Email: andybarker63@hotmail.co.uk

www.abrreclamation.co.uk

fencing

PORTWAY FENCING

SPECIAL OFFER

10 days of quality fencing concrete posts, gravel boards & heavy duty supped and fitted

www.portwayfencing.com

Office: 0121 531 5250

Mobile: 07866 137656

gas fitting

MG ROOFING

Flat roofs, tiling, roof repairs, fascias and gutters. Call 01902 238989 / 07850 465449.

MG ROOFING New Roofs, Repairs, Fascias & Gutters. Call: 0121 532 760 for 07875 387445.

roofing

FIRST DIRECTION ROOFING

Felt roof, tile, roofing, replace and repair. Fascias, soffits and guttering.

Trustatrader.com listed. Free quotes call 0800 0246151.

MG ROOFING Flat roofs, tiling, roof repairs, fascias and gutters. Call 01902 238989 / 07850 465449.

MG ROOFING New Roofs, Repairs, Fascias & Gutters. Call: 0121 532 760 for 07875 387445.

skip hire

GRINSELLS SKIP HIRE LTD.

Mini, midi, maxi, large skips. Fast, friendly & reliable service, Monday to Saturday, 6 day service. Call: 0121 555 6060.

4 Pets & Animals

equestrian corner

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses have the required Pasture information.

BAY COLT, CROSS SECTION D Cross Dales, 2 years old. Good to handle. £125. 07761 379384.

BLACK MINIATURE SHETLAND PONY Mare. Good to handle. £125. Telephone 07761 379384.

guns & dogs

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS

Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

pets corner

NOTICE TO READERS

Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:

1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with its Mother.

2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.

3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, pedigree, etc.

Whilst the above is a general guide to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

APPEAL CAT HOMES NEEDED

Charlie and Roxy, 6 months old, handsome, black and white cats, shy, retiring boys, need to be indoor cats.

Love and patients will bring its rewards.

Ring Pat 07545 679475.

Or 01902 670150.

Also other cats and kittens desperately in need of homes.

Details on our web site

wildacrerecuse.co.uk

CARLSBRO GRX110 powered mixer. Lane, CX110 powered mixer. Model: GRX110 will sell separately.

ONE BED FLAT. 1st floor. Tettenhall, quiet cul de sac, £395pcm.

properties wanted



BLACK COUNTRY HOMES

We Pay 100% of Purchase Price We buy any house

EVERY TIME

We are a family run local business.
A fair offer from people you can trust.

Buying properties for over 30 years.
No fees - Free solicitors.

We also buy Commercial & Industrial, Shops, factories, land, building plots....even your garden!

text GOAL
to 88802
and we will call
you back now.

Call Stan on



0800 0321718 or 01902 628047

24 hrs

*Subject to terms

**we can buy your house in
0800 389 6788** *Subject to terms
wolverhampton properties **2 days**



national
homeowners
helpline.co.uk
in a mess?
talk in confidence
we can help

LOOK

WE BUY
ANY HOUSE

24-7 0800 085 6626



+ SICK
of trying to sell your house
Call the House Doctor
Now for the best price
0800 085 2455

I CAN BEAT ANY PRICE!

FOR THE BEST PRICE ON YOUR HOME Call 0800 783 2822 24 hrs

GUARANTEED

- Guaranteed offer* • Any condition • Free solicitors • No fees*

* Terms apply

**sell you house
we are just a
phone call away**
• Any Circumstances
• Any condition • No fees
Fast completion
0800 085 2455

pink
We are a local
independent company

we pay more

- No Fees*
- Any property
- Any condition
- Free confidential service
- Any area*
- Repossessions stop
- Deceased estates

Call Free
0800 169 1118

**I BUY ANY HOUSE
4 CASH
QUICK AND
EASY
call Alex
0800 917 1233
Anytime**

SOLD

One phone call
Solves all your problems
Sell your house now
a guaranteed offer, no fees, fast completion any condition, any circumstances
Local Investor
01902 628047

**CALL PENNY for
TOP PRICES NOW**
*Local *Honest *Reliable
0800 389 6788

**PICK UP the phone
CALL NOW**
Best Price
Sam 07756 022 973
(24 Hours)

**A Better
Cash
Deal**

Its simple as that...
you will get the
best deal on your
home from
**FIRST GENERAL
HOMES**
0800 917 1233

Get Up to 100% For Your House - Fast!

- Any property. Any condition. Anywhere
- Get up to 100% of the market value
- Free valuation. Free consultation
- 100% Confidential. No obligation

**Fast Sale
Maximum Value**

The Property
Ombudsman
SALES

**UP TO
100%
PAID**

Yellow Springbok®

**NO OBLIGATION
FREE CONSULTATION**
24/7 Helpline
**0800 092 5743
01902 489 500**
YellowSpringbok.co.uk

**7
Jobs**

courses

cct
Correct Transport Training

**SAFE DRIVING FOR LIFE
"QUALIFIED INSTRUCTORS"**

FREE ASSESSMENTS • FREE THEORY TEST TRAINING
HGV, PCV, ALL LICENCE CATEGORIES.
DRIVER CPC COURSES &
TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT COURSES
CALL FOR A BROCHURE OR POP IN AND SEE US
01902 312800
www.hgvdrivertraining.co.uk

TOP GEAR
Driver Training
• LGV / PCV Training
• 1-1 Gold Standard tuition
• Free Assessments
• CPC Courses
• Driver Medicals
• Caravan & Horse Box Tuition available
0121 585 0834
www.topgear-lgv.com

**BUY LOCAL
SELL LOCAL**

01902 317878

**8
Motoring**

cars over £1500

ALFA ROMEO MITO LUSSO T 3-dr, 2008, black, 1 owner, FSH, £4,550.

BMW SERIES 318i SE SALOON, 2003, 1 owner, Only 50,000 miles. Petrol, navy blue. Excellent cond., £6,500. o.n.o. 07852 118084.

FORD FIESTA 1.2 petrol, 55 Reg, 2008, 50,000 miles, full MoT, 2 owners, fsh, immaculate, £1,595. 07908 649713.

MERCEDES C CLASS Advantage, 2001, silver, fsh, excellent condition, same owner since 2002, full MoT, £1,395 o.n.o. 07913 981460.

PEUGEOT 207, 2007, 72k miles, 1.4i, 3 door, silver, petrol, a/c, 6 months MoT, CD/MP3 stereo, cambelt change 2014, £2,150 o.n.o. 07947 872195.

VAUXHALL CORSA SXI 2002, 1.2, 3 door, silver, black, fsh, long MoT, HPI clear, £1,250 o.n.o. 07961 513840

WW VOLK GT, FSi, 2.0L, 61 plate, 11 months MoT, good condition, £1,595. 01902 8475771/07791 277889.

WW POLO 1.2 E, 2011, 61 plate, 11 months MoT, good condition, £1,595. 01902 745771/07791 277889.

FORD FIESTA LX 2004, 3dr, 87,000 miles, MoT, car bags, BW, AC, one previous owner, £1,500. 01384 258061. 07759 237779.

FORD KA 02, 53,000 miles, MoT May, 2015, good runner, £550.

FORD KA 2006, 1.3 petrol, 72,500 Miles, Red, MoT until Aug 2015, part service history, £900 07568 137388.

FORD PUMA 1.6N 2001, full year MoT, just serviced, in black, alloy, 6 CD changer, full electrics, £500. 01902 722509. 07570 466779.

ALFA ROMEO 166 Spark Lusso, 1600cc, petrol, red, 98k. Red, 16" alloys, fsh, £2,250. 01384 626755 or 07936 282473.

LAND ROVER DISCOVERY, 1994, MoT July, 160,000 miles, fsh, new clutch, CD player, £2,250. 01384 626755 or 07936 282473.

SOLD

cars under £1500

ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED

that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

ALFA ROMEO 166 Spark Lusso, 1600cc, petrol, red, 98k. Red, 16" alloys, fsh, £2,250. 01384 626755 or 07936 282473.

LAND ROVER DISCOVERY, 1994, MoT July, 160,000 miles, fsh, new clutch, CD player, £2,250. 01384 626755 or 07936 282473.

MAZDA 6 2004, petrol, FSH, 86k, auto, 48k, SH, looks & drives as new, £999 o.n.o. 0121 5747066.

CITROEN C8 7 SEATER HDI Diesel 2003, 110,000 miles, 11 months MoT. Reliable family car, £1,250. Halewood, 0121 679 4779 (eve).

CITROEN SAXO VTR, 51 reg, full MOT, 85k, alloys, SR, CL, PAS, silver, economical, £475.

CITROEN XANTIA Diesel, HDi, X reg, 160,000 miles, excellent condition, long MoT, £695 o.n.o. Willenhall 07850 655586.

PEUGEOT 206 1.4 GLX 2002, 69,000 miles, green, e/w, 2 air bags, electric windows, air con, fsh, alarm, MoT March c/l, pas, CD, 5 doors, 2 new tyres. £850.

07801 030993.

PEUGEOT 206 CONVERTIBLE, 2002, silver, nice condition, MoT till April 2017, £1,500. 0121 5747066.

PEUGEOT 206 Estate, 1.4, 90k, 5 reg, MoT, A/C, PAS, CD, 1 lady owner. Excellent condition, £1,175. 07877 005688.

PEUGEOT 206 Estate, 1.4, 90k, 5 reg, MoT, A/C, PAS, CD, 1 lady owner. Excellent condition, £1,175. 07877 005688.

PEUGEOT 206 Silver, 1.6 hatchback, 2002, 90,000 miles, excellent condition, FSH, MoT, all serv'd, £2,000. 01380 356562.

PEUGEOT 307 HDI DIESEL, (04), black, long MoT, fsh, Beautiful condition, £1,250. 07867 685569.

Classified Ads

1ST TO SEE WILL BUY

PEUGEOT 307 S
2005, 5 door, Hatch, 2005.
Dark metallic blue.
Very good condition.
Aaverage mileage for year.
Service history.
12 months MoT.
New cam belt, 17" alloys.
£1,400.ono.
07597 596833.

1ST TO SEE WILL BUY

RENAULT CLIO 2000, good condit., long MoT, low mileage, 2 owners, 08000 miles.
01902 451659.

ROVER 25 2004, MoT September 2015, 68,000 miles, new cambelt, gold, good condition / runner. £950 omo. 07896 761908.

ROVER 25 Facelift, 1.4, black, 54 plate, 68k miles, MoT July 2015, CL, some service history. £775ono. 07896 761908.

ROVER MG ZS 2000 plate, MoT end 15/07, 67,000 miles, Burgundy Red, excellent throughout. £950 omo. 01384 251328.

VAUXHALL AGILA 1.0, 03, reg. 82167 miles, 12 months MoT, red, cheap to run, ideal first car, £1,195 omo. 07980 334434.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2, 5-dr, 03, 82,000 miles, 5 months MoT, very good condition, £895. 07850 113666.

VW BEETLE 2.0, 2000, service history, green, new cam belt, MoT Feb, dent on side, £750 omo. 01920 372193 or 07475 638786.

classic cars

CLASSIC CARS WANTED
Private cash buyer
Instant cash settlement.
Any age, any condition.
Call Market Drayton.
01625 629933.

commercial vehicles

NISSAN KUBISTAR 2004, white, 00000 miles, MoT, full MoT, good tyres, reliable. £900. 01384 532668 / 07811 176564.

VAUXHALL ASTRA SPORTIF 1.9 DIESEL VAN
56 reg, recon injectors, timing belt, new front tyres, 12 months MoT, 94,000 miles.
£2,850.
01902 672530 /
07985 561248.

driving tuition


Homer's
Mini, Clio, Fiesta, Punto,
207, KA, Fiat 500, Yaris,
10 Hours £89! Five Hours £50!
2 Hours £20! All Areas Covered
MALE & FEMALE INSTRUCTORS
MANUAL & AUTOMATIC
ADI/PDI REQUIRED. Gift vouchers available.
07970 200666 / 01922 780250
01562 871120 / 01922 234954
01543 471120 / 0121 564 0090
01902 580065
www.homersdrivingschool.co.uk

motorbikes

SUZUKI GS500, 05 plate, 10,470 miles. Blue/white fairings. Great beginner bike. Reliable/economical, £1,500 omo. 01902 893006.

TWO TRACK & race bikes, one 600cc Honda, one 750cc Yamaha, 600cc track ready for next season. Ring for details 07787 955532.

scrap vehicles

OUR ADVERTISERS are reminded that it is an offence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy scrap cars/meta for cash.

1st CHOICE
TOP PRICE PAID 4 SCRAP CARS!
VANS! CAMPER! MOT FAILURES!
ANYTHING CONSIDERED
FREE COLLECTION
WITHIN THE HOUR! 7 DAYS
01902 562853 07977 499516
07895 346811- 24 hrs

A B SPARES

Pays More
All Scrap Cars & Vans wanted
Anything Considered
Free Collection
Scrap It Legally COD. Given Instant Payment.
01902 493110 / 0121 525 5813 time
01902 659775 evenings

M C B
TOP PRICES PAID FOR
ALL SCRAP CARS,
VANS, BIKES, CLASSICS
Tel: 01902 408176

1000's of parts
available at all times
MONMORE RD. WV1 2TZ

ABC AUTO SALVAGE
WANTED URGENT
Scrap & MOT Failures Best
Prices Paid ELV Registered
Spares Always Available
0121 557 0800 or 0121 557
0400. Evening 07813 184611
Oldbury Area.

vehicles wanted

alan reed cars
Used cars wanted for cash.
Top prices paid. HPI Settled.
Buyer could call.
01562 711083 /
07831 245313

ANY CARS WANTED - RUNNING OR
MOT Failure. Cash Paid. Can
Collect. Telephone 07850 330202.

CROWN MOTORS Guarantee best
cash price for unwanted cars/vans/Cash
Call 01902 597035 / 07903 549849.

PRIVATE BUYER, wanted cars/
anything considered, cash
waiting. 01902 828908.

spares & accessories

accessories & services

BOX TRAILER, 4ft x 3ft x 18ins, drop
down back, 14x10 wheels inde-
suspension sprung, trailerboard electrics, £135. 07976 244845.

mobile mechanics

MOBILE MECHANICS Service &
repairs. Headgasket, clutches and
cambelts. 07747 848469.

9
Local Information

public & legal notices

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES
For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to
Marie Hogg on 01902 713146
or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk (remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

10
Personals

general

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the public of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

Please contact
Paul 07880 783209.

FreeAds

**IT'S FREE
IT'S EASY**

*Advertise any item **FREE** up to
the value of £250 go to:
www.expressandstar.com/bookanad

Simply click the FreeAds icon 
*Private advertisers only, no guns, pets, or livestock.
Free ads are published within 7 days of receipt, in-paper
and online and are limited to 3 lines maximum.

personal



Genuine Male

5ft 11, blue eyes, smart appearance, very tactile.
Looking for a special Female, aged 55-65, with an interesting personality and a positive outlook.
Must have a GSOH and be down to earth.
Friendship / possible LTR. Photo appreciated, will return.

Box Number P19569,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.



WOLVERHAMPTON GUY 54
Slim, fit, single, own house and car, non smoker, very loving, understanding, WLTM, slim, medium lady, local for genuine friendship / relationship. All letters replied, photo appreciated (returned). Box Number P19576,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.



WOLVERHAMPTON LADY 54
Likes theatre, countryside, meals in or out. I am genuine, honest, caring, WLTM local gentleman the same who likes to live a little, age 70's early 80's for friendship, company and to share things with.
Genuine replies only. Car owner please.

Box Number P19570,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

sports clubs



KEWFORD EAGLES
LOCAL COMMUNITY
FOOTBALL CLUB

Have a position for an experienced player in one of our U10's team, current school year 5.

Please contact
Paul 07880 783209.

COLOURZONE
* Interior and exterior
painting and decorating
* Special rates for OAPs
* 25 years experience
* Fully insured
0121 434 5679
07507 070786

Local Specialists



Aerials

J. J. Digital Aerials

Installation of Digital, Freeview & Satellite

**WE GUARANTEE TO
BEAT ANY LIKE FOR LIKE QUOTE**
AERIALS £55 - SATELLITE £65
SELF EMPLOYED EXPERT WHO YOU CAN TRUST

Friendly, reliable service
0121 5306785 / 07919 597626

Blinds & Curtains

Blinds4Less

Leaving a good impression!

Choose From a fantastic range!

-Pleated - Venetians

-Roman - Curtains

-Vertical - Awnings

-Roller - Shutters

- 10% off thermally efficient Shutters

and outdoor awnings!

- 40% off Conservatory roof blinds!

Give us a try before you buy!

Contact us on

01384 886162 / 01902 500204
07989 588728
Blinds4lessdirect.com

Double Glazing

Misted Sealed Units?

Contact us for a free quote!

Tel **01384 566100**

Email: quotations@blackcountryglazing.com

BLACK COUNTRY GLAZING Est 1987



Driveways

DISCOUNT DRIVEWAYS

Block Paving and Tarmac
Drives • Paths • Patios
Slabbing • Red Tarmac
Car Parks



5 Year Guarantee On All Work
Free Quotations and Advice

Tel: **01384 79900 • 07583 170190**

www.discountdriveways.co.uk

Electricians

Winter Deal!!!

Is your fuseboard in need of an upgrade?
Does your house wiring need an MOT?

J S Quality Electrical Services Ltd are offering a Winter Deal not to be missed on all new fuseboard upgrades, we only supply and fit the latest and safest fuseboards along with a Part P Electrical Installation Certificate. Also included with the fuseboard change is a full MOT of your entire house wiring.

Call us today on

0121 531 6884 or 07753 393562

Electrical Safety Register
www.jqualityelectrical.co.uk
j.selectricalservices@hotmail.co.uk

CW Electrical

Kingswinford Limited

Fault Finding & Condition Reports

Re-wires/Part Rewires

Appliances/Sockets

Shower Repairs

Intruder Alarms

Security Lights

Storage Heaters

Electric Cooker Repairs

Visit our website for more services

Over 16 Years Experience

01384 278471

INSTALLATIONS 7 DAYS A WEEK

Mod-Cert ELECTRICAL SERVICES

Part P Approved Installer

• Complete rewires
• Shower installations
• Security Alarms
• Domestic/Commercial/Industrial
• Testing/Certs

Call now for a Free Quote
Tel: 0121-533 9227
24 HOUR 07733 344558

ELECSA

Reg EPP31405

Local Specialists

Our Specialist Section offers you a wide range of local businesses and tradesmen to deal with your needs and requirements.

Local Specialists

Local Specialists



Electricians

3000 electrics



- Domestic Electrical Installations
- Sockets • Lights
- Condition Reports
- No job too small • Free quotes
- Reliable and friendly service

T: 0121 420 3000 M: 07811 19 16 16

Starkey Electrical Ltd
Manor House, Manor Lane, Halesowen
Domestic, Commercial & Industrial Electricians

For all your electrical needs in the home, garden, driveway or office/retail premises

- Landlord Certification • Fuse board replacements • Rewiring
- Energy saving LED Lighting • Emergency call outs - 7 days a week
- Experienced electricians NICEIC regulated
- Competitive Prices/FREE quotations

www.starkeyelectrical.co.uk

0121 602 8088 (24 hour Call Outs)

07967 650 567 OFFICE: 0844 561 7244



ELECTRICIAN

Fully guaranteed work
Honest reliable service



Ring Tony or Julie on
0121 422 3549
07974 428 603
'No Job Too Small'

A M ELECTRICAL SERVICES

Domestic . Commercial . Industrial
Full And Part Rewires / Fuse Boards
Upgrades / Shower / Extra Sockets
PAT Testing / Safety Reports
CCTV / Burglar Alarms

Free Quotes And Advice Call
0121 369 2370
07785 781652

MB electric

All domestic and commercial
electrical works undertaken
Home rewiring from £800

For a high quality
local service call :
0121 3690311
07939 503905
mbelectric.co.uk

Fencing

LBT Fencing
All types of quality
fencing supplied & erected
Plus decking, slabbing &
block paving

FREE QUOTES
Tel: 0121 585 9992 or 07884 344616
www.lbtfencing.co.uk

PJW FENCING
All types of
fencing and gates
supplied and fitted

Other services: Shed bases, slabbing and garden clearances
removal of trees, privet, old sheds and garages
QUALITY WORKMANSHIP AT COMPETITIVE PRICES • ALL AREAS COVERED
For a free quote call
0121 532 2263 or 07951 536929

Fencing

NAJRAN

BUILDING, FENCING & GAS SUPPLIES

0121 456 3555 • 07930 396620
194-196 Springhill Hockley Birmingham B18 7BS
najrantfencing@gmail.com
www.najranbuildingandfencing.co.uk

Suppliers to trade & public

- SLABS
- SAND & CEMENT
- GATES MADE TO MEASURE
- SHEDS
- TIMBER
- TURF
- GAS BOTTLES
- F/E PANELS
- SAND AND CEMENT

ANY LIKE-FOR-LIKE QUOTE BEATEN!

SPECIAL OFFERS

ALL HEAVY DUTY WANFY PANELS FROM ONLY £14.95

Choice of 6x5 / 6x6

6x4 T/G PENT FROM £195

10 BAYS - Supply & Fit FROM £595

(including concrete post/gravel boards/h/d wanfy panels)

Portable Heaters NOW IN STOCK BEST PRICES GUARANTEED

Dog Kennels made to measure FROM £25 Decorative Gravel Compost Turf

Many other special offers in store - ring for details - prices too good to print!

Tell us your best price&we will try and beat it! ALL PRICES INCLUDE VAT

Mobile Heater Packages FROM £79

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK!
STOCKIST OF ENERGAS PRODUCTS
DELIVERY & COLLECTION SERVICE AVAILABLE

Fencing & Gates

All Garden Work Undertaken

- Slabbing • Block Paving • Tree Felling
- Surfacing • Garden Clearance

NO JOB TOO SMALL

Manufacturers of all Concrete Products

e.g. Concrete Posts, Gravel Boards

All work guaranteed Insurance work undertaken

Over 15 years experience (Public liability covered)

Call Steve on

01384 242891 or 07970 300586

Garage Doors

DB GARAGE DOORS

- Supply & install
- All types of doors
- Security Grills
- FREE Survey & Quotation
- Repair Service
- Remote Control Doors
- Made to Measure

www.dbshutters.co.uk

Tel: 0121 422 1990 Mob: 07860 858378

Gardening

Dal's Gardening & Tree Services

- A Good reliable service,
- A Name you can trust
- All areas covered
- So don't delay phone today for a FREE quotation
- 07407 622855

Garden Transformations

From total makeovers and clearances to

decking and fencing

Guaranteed lowest prices

0121 422

8594 or

07985 548466

Gardening

ROWAN TREE & GARDEN SERVICES LTD

*Tree Surgeon Specialist *Stump Grinding/Root Removal

*Hedges Pruned/Shaped *Jungles Cleared/Full Landscapes

*Fencing *Turfing *Concreting *Driveways & Patios

*Plus Much More Call Now For a No Obligation Quotation

24/7 365 emergency callout service

01384 213644 or 07733 226568

AGE CONCERN & Local Authority Contractor, N.P.T.C. qualified,

Public Liability Insurance (£5 million) All staff C.R.B. Certified

PART OF THE ROWAN GROUP OF COMPANIES

Paving

DRIVES • PATHS • PATIOS • COBBLES
JET WASHING SERVICE

FINE-LINE PAVING (MIDLANDS) LTD.
CONTACT ANDY OR GRAHAM NOW FOR A FREE, NO OBLIGATION QUOTE

(01384) 869605

07950 659668 / 07754 676336

ALL BRICKWORK & GROUNDWORK UNDERTAKEN

ALL WORK GUARANTEED

www.fine-linepaving.co.uk

Plastering

C.A. Plastering

For competitive quotes on all your refurbishment needs on plastering, boarding, overboarding, partitions, re-skimming and artex covering.
No job too small

07538 718264

Plumbing & Heating

SUPERWARM HEATING

Specialists in replacing
Boilers, Power Flushing Systems, Worcester
Bosch, Baxi & Vaillant accredited
30+ YEARS EXPERIENCE
Ex British Gas

Call Eddie

07976 755441

0121 544 8427

Nick's Plastering Services

ALL TYPES OF PLASTERING WORK UNDERTAKEN

Advanced City and Guilds Qualified

OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE

Low Prices

FREE QUOTES

0121 559 4818

07930 525677

DH PLASTERERS

From building
skirting, plastering and repairs TO complete rooms

GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICES

0121 422 8594 or

07985 548466

KEN PERRY

PLUMBING & HEATING ENGINEER
Gas Fitting, Boiler Servicing and Immersion Heaters,
Multi Point Water Heaters, Landlord's Gas Certificates,
Boiler changed

Guild of Master Craftsmen
Gas Safe Registered
STOURBRIDGE 392284

Plumbing & Heating

Gas Heating Services

130 Hagley Road (Shop 6), Halesowen B63 1DY

Central Heating

Gas Fitting

Plumbing

Gas Appliance Servicing

Boiler Maintenance & Repairs

Specialists in Combination Boilers

Fully Trained Engineers

Family Run Business

FREE QUOTES

VISA

MasterCard

Maestro

GATCO

GAS safe REGISTERED

Call us today for fast, friendly advice

Office: 0121 503 0066

www.gassafe1.com

Mot's

MOT £27.99 with this advert FREE RE-TEST

Green Garage, Unit 2a Station Road,

(rear of Gold Cue Snooker Club), Blackheath, B65 0LJ

0121 559 6001



To advertise your business and reach more than 41,000 potential customers...



Call us on...
01902 319590



E-mail us at...
lisa.dandy@expressandstar.co.uk



Post to...
Lisa Dandy, Halesowen Chronicle, Black Lake Regional Centre, West Bromwich B70 0QB

Local Specialists



Plumbing & Heating

R.S PLUMBING AND HEATING

All General Plumbing Undertaken
 • Bathrooms Suites
 • Radiators / Tanks / Pumps Fitted
 • Outside Taps Fitted
 • Leaks Repaired
 • PipeWork Alterations • Local Friendly Service
www.rsplumbing-halesowen.co.uk

Call Richard: 07902 557 496

HOUSEHOLD PLUMBING
 (General Plumbing and Bathrooms)
iphe All installations and repairs **EST 1994**
 Supply and fit or fit only
 TIDY, MODERN APPROACH. REGISTERED PLUMBER
 No job too small. Friendly service. Free advice and quotes
 Tel: Neil 07968 786449 - 0121-601 6767
www.household-plumbing.co.uk

Knight Gas Heating & Plumbing

Central Heating/Boilers
 Fires and Cookers
 Installation and Repair
 All Plumbing Work
 Landlords certificate

FREE QUOTES
 Call Gary on
 0121 550 3424 or
 07715 082113



Upholstery

JC RE-UPHOLSTERY SERVICES
 Specialising in Re-upholstery, Repairs and Antiques
CONTRACT & DOMESTIC
 No Job Too Small
 FREE ESTIMATES
 Choice of Patterns
 Quality Workmanship
 a Blackheath
 0121 561 3977 daytime
 or 0121 561 2344 evenings after 6pm

ROWAN PROPERTY MAINTENANCE LTD

★ Interior/Exterior Painting And Decorating
 ★ All Aspects Of Plastering And Specialist Machine Rendering
 ★ Rendering ★ Fascias, Soffits & Guttering
 ★ Flooring And Tiling ★ Plus Much More...
CALL NOW FOR A NO OBLIGATION QUOTATION
01384 213644 or 07733 226568

AGE CONCERN & LOCAL AUTHORITY CONTRACTOR, CITY & GUILD QUALIFIED,
 PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE (£5 MILLION) ALL STAFF C.R.B. CERTIFIED
PART OF THE ROWAN GROUP OF COMPANIES

INSIDE OUT SERVICES

ALL ASPECTS OF PROPERTY MAINTENANCE
 • BRICKWORK • BLOCK PAVING CLEANING
 • GUTTERING • FELT ROOFING • POINTING UP
 • EXTERIOR PAINTING DECORATING
 • ELECTRICAL WORK • LANDSCAPING
 • NO JOB TOO SMALL

Phone George
 0121 602 3065 07974 538649

REPAIR, INSTALL & MAINTAIN

GAS & HEATING APPLIANCES
 • BATHROOMS
 • KITCHEN
 • UTILITY ROOMS ALSO UNDERTAKEN
 ESTABLISHED FAMILY RUN BUSINESS

atlas property solutions
 ELECTRICAL - GAS - PLUMBING

07830 381506

www.atlaspaintingsolutions.co.uk

To advertise your business and reach more than 41,000 potential customers...

Roofing

ALL WEATHER ROOFING

Slating, Tiling, New Roofs, Flat Roofs, Chimneys, Guttering, Ridges, Flashings, uPVC Fascia Cladding
 FREE ESTIMATES • FAST RELIABLE SERVICE

Over 30 years experience

0121 420 1582
NO CALL OUT CHARGE

Mobile Number: 07947 839451
allweatherroofingwestmids.co.uk
allweatherroofinguk@outlook.com

WTW ROOFING Services

Fast and friendly service from a family run business, with over 10 years' experience
SPECIALISTS IN TILE, SLATE, fibreglass flat roofing, flat felt roofing, upVC, fascias, soffits and guttering, lead work, pointing and storm damage

no job too big or too small
 For a free quote call
 0121 423 4602 or 07841 046 126
 Kent Road, Halesowen, B62 8PD

Specialists

wednesbury kitchens

Bathrooms & Bedrooms LTD

Friendly advise from a family run business with 35 years experience.
 We offer a full range of services from free quote and design to installation central heating, building work, plastering and tiling

Call or visit today.

45 LOWER HIGH STREET, WEDNESBURY WS10 7AQ

0121 505 3334

www.kitchenbathroombedrooms.com

Opening times: Monday-Friday: 9.30am-5.00pm

Closed: Thursday & Sunday Saturday: 9.30am-2.00pm



AFFORDABLE WINDOWS & DOORS

Put your Trust in Steve...Looking after Clients for 15 years

DOOR BARRELL CHANGES from £20
WINDOW PACKAGES NOW AVAILABLE
 Victorian & Edwardian Conservatories AVAILABLE CALL NOW
www.wolverhamptonwindows.co.uk
07710 434223
01902 827879

We're here to make advertising better.

(Not to make better advertising. Sorry.)

Here at the Advertising Standards Authority, we judge ads on whether they're harmful, misleading, or offensive. Not on whether they're funny, clever or they look good. Which is just as well, really.

Telephone 020 7492 2222 www.asa.org.uk



Keeping advertising standards high

Roofing Contractors

• Small repairs £15 • Gutters cleaned £15 • Pointing £15
 • Fascias and gutters cleaned £30 • Missing slates £25
 • Chimney, retiling, repointed £30
 • High performance flat roof (25 years guarantee)
 • Fibreglass sheeting • uPVC Verges
 • Flat roof repairs £25 • Tiling slating

Telephone or text 07773 001 859
 01384 591 826

ELITE PLASTICS

• Fascias • Soffits • Dry Verge
 • Pointing • Gutter Cleaning And Repair
 Premium Products Expertly Fitted With Full Manufacture Guarantee.

For A Free Quote call
 01384 468831 / 07985 575865

Call us on...
01902 319590

2

E-mail us at...
lisa.dandy@expressandstar.co.uk

3

Post to...
 Lisa Dandy, Halesowen Chronicle, Black Lake Regional Centre, West Bromwich B70 0QB



Here's how to use your dating service ...

Place your advert call:
0844 887 2293

and follow the simple instructions

To **Place** your ad
by text

Simply text **REG** followed by your first name, date of birth, area and your advert (max 155 characters) and send to **80098**.
FREE Standard Network rates apply.

To **Reply** to members
from your landline call:
0906 500 3955

calls cost £1.53 per min

Have the adverts 6-digit box no written down and do **key-it-in promptly** when asked. Don't forget to leave contact details for replies.

To **Reply** to members from your mobile call **68118**

calls cost £1.50 per minute plus network charges

Or **Text..REPLY26** (leave a space) the six-digit box number (leave a space) and then enter your message & send to **80098** eg: **REPLY26 123456 hi get in touch...** then send to **80098**. Successfully forwarded messages cost £1.50 per message (Max 160 characters). You must exchange 7 messages each before you can swap contact details. Messages may be moderated for your safety and security.

YOUR local dating service, run by the dating experts who have been established since 1990. **REAL people in YOUR area..**

Try it.
You'll love it!

Been left a message?
Pickup your replies
on:

0906 500 3957

calls cost £1.53 per min

Date ONLINE
YOU can now
date online or
via your **mobile**
Simply **VISIT**
us at:

<http://dating.expressandstar.com>

THE biggest UK on-line database of 17 million UK REAL users waiting to meet you.. visit.. <http://dating.expressandstar.com>

Women seeking men

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.53 per minute plus network extras. Texts cost £1.50 per message sent.

KAREN 50, widow, likes swimming, horse riding, keep fit, clay pigeon shooting, GSOH, N/S, non drinker, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415211

50 year old widow, love reading, walking, horse riding, clay shooting, swimming & keep fit, 5ft 5" blonde hair, gsoh looking for similar male. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4435776

FEMALE looking for male any age for fun, meets up, friendship and take it from there. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4550576

BUBBLY larger than life 28 yr old blonde bombshell, sees large build male to fulfil my every fantasy! Give me a call I will totally make your day maybe even your year. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414977

SOPHIA young 40ys, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. Tel No: 0905 002 1883 Box No: 413399

BARBARA 38 slim sporty attractive blonde, varied interests, single and ready to date, seeks kind honest guy for shared interests, fun nights out, hopefully leading to more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414967

LUCY, 32yrs, blonde lady seeks naughty boys of any age for no strings fun. Tel No: 0905 002 1887 Box No: 414343

JULIE single petite attractive big blue eyed blonde, loves cooking a cosy meal in, nights out, searching for real love with genuinely nice guy. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414491

KAREN, 42yrs, attractive and broadminded, sees no strings fun with any age, must be discreet. Tel No: 0905 002 1891 Box No: 407953

GOOD looking professional lady, 56, enjoys the arts, country walks, meals out, seeks compatible, genuine, professional gent to enjoy the good things in life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415007

JANE, 40s, tall, blonde leggy lady, honest and keen to meet gent for fun times. I can make you happy! Tel No: 0905 002 1895 Box No: 361745

ANGIE 38ys slim blonde, ex model with lovely long legs with shapely figure, fit, toned, sporty, confident but warm, WLTM similar perceptive, sensitive individual for it. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414723

SALLY, 38ys largely cuddly lady, seeks slim men for discreet meetings. Text Only 4550193

BECKY stunning big blue eyed 38 yr old honest, caring and fun person looking for nice times with similar outgoing fun guy, status/age unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414391

TRUDY 36yrs, with broadminded men of any age/area for daytime meetings. Text Only 4550194

68YR old widow, attractive, seeks sincere, N/S male, likes reading, meals out and walks. West Midlands. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414773

MELANIE, 38, slim, blonde and bored. Call if you want no strings fun. Text Only 4550198

NICOLA 32, blue eyes, petite, pretty blonde, shy at first, trustworthy, caring, varied hobbies, seeks male/single dad up to 40ys for possible it. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414707

JENNI, 52 bored housewife wants no strings fun with younger chaps. Text Only 4550197

TARA 22 tall slim but curvy legs that go all the way up to heaven, WLTM very appreciative confident male for adult fun. Contact me anytime. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414707

KAREN petite 34yr old attractive blonde, likes pubs, clubs, meals out, gym, looking for honest caring guy who can make me laugh. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414373

CATH 37yr old very bored housewife seeking bored male for some fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414497

ANN looking for no strings adult fun, broadminded and great fun, blonde, attractive and discreet. Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414363

JANE 5ft5ins blue eyed attractive curly mature student with happy disposition, enjoys meals or drinks in/out, keeping fit, walking, seeking genuine fun male with GSOH. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414229

ARE you Mr Wonderful? Lesley attractive slimubn haird fit lady who loves life and fully intends to live it to the full, seeking similar caring, patient man. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414213

KATY 26 slim beautiful discreet blue eyed blonde looking for mature gent for some uncomplicated fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414208

SARAH 38yrs old broad blonde seeking single guys up for some good times, chats and discreet meets. Looking forward to hearing from you. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414177

EMIS 32yrs petite young looking, pretty, likes swimming, walking, talking etc, seeking honest bloke or dad up to 40ys for adult friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412725

FEMALE looking for male any age for fun, meet ups, friendship and take it from there. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4550576

NATALIE 22yrs attractive blonde nurse, very slim, athletic figure, many likes, few dislikes. WLTM male up to 38ys to stay at home and have some fun with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413839

JAN 26 petite curly professional warm, affectionate, looking to fill full time vacancy with similar male who loves cuddles/kisses and bikes for romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412387

JULIE 30 slim curly professional warm, affectionate, looking to fill full time vacancy with similar male who loves cuddles/kisses and bikes for romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412777

SALLY stunning lady looking for dinner dates, partying and generally having a good time with generous man looking for his moist things. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412599

DEB petite attractive auburn haired, good looking, athletic, enjoys socialising, cosy nights in with Mr Right, seeking similar caring N/S single dad. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412387

JAN slim curly professional warm, affectionate, looking to fill full time vacancy with similar male who loves cuddles/kisses and bikes for romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412167

ATTRACTIVE slim blonde, 47, N/S, seeks tall slim male for a cut above the average relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 3955 Box No: 412196

FEMALE looking for male any age for fun, meet ups, friendship and take it from there. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4550576

NATALIE 22yrs attractive blonde nurse, very slim, athletic figure, many likes, few dislikes. WLTM male up to 38ys to stay at home and have some fun with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413839

JANE 26 petite curly big blue eyes, loves music, beach walks, cosy nights with good conversation and nice wine, seeks similar likeminded male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414351

HELEN curly redhead with many interests including beach walks and quiet nights in, looking for male with GSOH and a passion for travel. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414315

SONYA slim attractive vibrant lady with GSOH, social nature, fit/active. WLTM N/S male up to 60ys for romantic, genuine respectful relationship, loving. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414344

KAREN seeking nice man in the West Midlands, 50-70 for companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413765

ANITA seeking nice man in the West Midlands, 50-70 for companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413765

SONYA slim attractive vibrant lady with GSOH, social nature, fit/active. WLTM N/S male up to 60ys for romantic, genuine respectful relationship, loving. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414344

KAREN 34 blue eyed green eyed size 12 attractive blonde who loves pub's, cosy night in, kids, seeking special honest guy/dad for possibly. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413008

KAREN 34 blue/green eyed size 12 attractive blonde who loves pub's, cosy night in, kids, seeking special honest guy/dad for possibly. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412907

EUROPEAN beauty romantic, caring, attentive, looking for loving male to enjoy warm loving relationship, call me to find out about it. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413013

KAREN 34 blue eyes, petite, pretty blonde, shy at first, trustworthy, caring, varied hobbies, seeks male/single dad up to 40ys for possible it. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414707

EMMA 26 slim blonde eye 22yrs, likes cinema, dancing/music, just chillin, seeking easygoing male for fun and good times but nothing serious. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413207

ANGIE 26 slim attractive blonde, seeks male who is caring, honest, kind, good company and a nice relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412929

ROSA 27 sexy senorita seeking older handsome prince charming to whisk me off my feet, enjoy fun times, improve my English and fall in love. With age/race unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412927

SARA bored blonde looking for single guys for fun, chats and meets, looking forward to hearing from you, don't be shy. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412055

CUSTOMER SUPPORT
Call 0207 720 7130 Monday - Friday 10am - 4pm
or email us at support@jmediauk.co.uk

CALL CHARGES*: DATING 18+ and have the bill payer's permission. 090 calls cost £1.53 per min. plus network charges. Calls from Mobiles will be considerably higher. Calls are recorded and may appear on your bill. TEXT*: Text alerts are charged at £1.50 per week. To unsubscribe to text alerts, text DATING STOP to 63333. To cancel free match alerts, text STOP to 07781470422. For full T&Cs go to www.localdates-terms.co.uk/. REPLY BY TEXT*: 80098/89990 costs £1.50 per SMS received (max 150 characters). Guaranteed to receive 1 - 4 messages for each message you send. Service only available where phone icon show. Messages are moderated. Minimum 7 messages must be sent before contact details can be exchanged. This service is not computer generated. All messages are responded to by real service users. No meetings can be guaranteed. If arranging a meeting be sure to choose a public space and do not give personal details to people you have not met. Some advertisers on this page come from our national database. To STOP text stop to 80098/89990. Service provided by No Goats Ltd. Help: 0207 720 7130. ALL SERVICES*: By text any shortcode you consent to the owner of that shortcode sending you the occasional marketing message to opt out of receiving these send NO INFO to 80098. DATA PROTECTION: Service provided by JMedia UK Ltd, SW4 7BX, 0207 720 7130. We will collect the details you provide and may send you details of other services and events operated by us. We may pass your details onto this newspaper for marketing or PhonePayPlus for regulatory purposes. W/C 17/11/14

Our NEW MatchMaker service makes meeting people easy!

TRY IT FOR FREE TODAY!

Matchmaker does all the hard work for you. We connect you with other members in your area who match your interests to take the stress out of meeting new people.

SIMPLY TEXT MATCH TO 89990

First 3 messages received are free; thereafter £1.50. Text STOP to 89990 to exit at any time.

KAREN pretty blonde, short in stature, big honest, keeps fit, loves dogs, seeking a caring, kind male who can make me laugh. Nothing too serious just fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412377

JANET tall beautiful blonde, slim 12, separated, enjoys life, no hang ups, wanting quality time, friendship and possible romance with similar guy. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413145

EMMIE 50, attractive blonde, 5ft 3ins, OHAC, likes country walks, music, reading, seeks genuine, friendly, professional male with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412181

RETIRIED happy, caring, attractive female, likes gardening, travel, animals, comedy, seeks tall, funny, kind chap, Shropshire. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414159

SUE 34, likes most things in life, even football looking for my Mr Wonderful thought I would give this a try. Come on what do we have to lose, call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407165

DIANE voluptuous curly and all woman, loves dancing, walking, cosy nights in, WLTM nice man for friendship, hopefully leading to something more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412321

CAROL slim attractive blonde, sporty, easy going, broadminded looking for likeminded male with plenty of va voom, 35-45. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409717

SUSAN 64, lovely looking slim pretty female looking for a caring male in my life, any age, to get to know and see what happens. You only live once remember! Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410959

SUE 38, attractive slim pretty female looking for that special man in my life, any age, to get to know and see what happens. You only live once remember! Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409717

GITA 40s petite young slim pretty female looking for a caring male in my life, any age, to get to know and see what happens. You only live once remember! Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409717

EMMIE 50, attractive blonde, 5ft 3ins, OHAC, likes country walks, music, reading, seeks genuine, friendly, professional male with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407165

PAULINE attractive divorced female with ties, employed with my own home, likes in/out, lots of tlc to give to the right person, call me for a chat, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411919

GARY 6ft 2ins, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, likes nights in/out, seeks female, 30-50. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411919

CHRIS age 46 gsoh n/s seeks lady similar age, for nights out and music and theatre, no strings fun. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 412055

PAULINE attractive divorced female with ties, employed with my own home, likes in/out, lots of tlc to give to the right person, call me for a chat, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411919

GARY 6ft 2ins, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, likes nights in/out, seeks female, 30-50. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411919

CHRIS age 46 gsoh n/s seeks lady similar age, for nights out and music and theatre, no strings fun. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 412055

GARY 6ft 2ins, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, likes nights in/out, seeks female, 30-50. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411919

CHRIS age 46 gsoh n/s seeks lady similar age, for nights out and music and theatre, no strings fun. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 412055

GARY 6ft 2ins, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, likes nights in/out, seeks female, 30-50. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411919

CHRIS age 46 gsoh n/s seeks lady similar age, for nights out and music and theatre, no strings fun. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 412055

GARY 6ft 2ins, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, likes nights in/out, seeks female, 30-50. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411919

CHRIS age 46 gsoh n/s seeks lady similar age, for nights out and music and theatre, no strings fun. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 412055

GARY 6ft 2ins, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, likes nights in/out, seeks female, 30-50. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411919

CHRIS age 46 gsoh n/s seeks lady similar age, for nights out and music and theatre, no strings fun. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 412055

GARY 6ft 2ins, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, likes nights in/out, seeks female, 30-50. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411919

CHRIS age 46 gsoh n/s seeks lady similar age, for nights out and music and theatre, no strings fun. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 412055

GARY 6ft 2ins, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, likes nights in/out, seeks female, 30-50. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411919

CHRIS age 46 gsoh n/s seeks lady similar age, for nights out and music and theatre, no strings fun. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 412055

GARY 6ft 2ins, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, likes nights in/out, seeks female, 30-50. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411919

CHRIS age 46 gsoh n/s seeks lady similar age, for nights out and music and theatre, no strings fun. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 412055

GARY 6ft 2ins, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, likes nights in/out, seeks female, 30-50. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411919

CHRIS age 46 gsoh n/s seeks lady similar age, for nights out and music and theatre, no strings fun. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 412055

GARY 6ft 2ins, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, likes nights in/out, seeks female, 30-50. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411919

CHRIS age 46 gsoh n/s seeks lady similar age, for nights out and music and theatre, no strings fun. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 412055

GARY 6ft 2ins, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, likes nights in/out, seeks female, 30-50. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411919

CHRIS age 46 gsoh n/s seeks lady similar age, for nights out and music and theatre, no strings fun. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 412055

GARY 6ft 2ins, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, likes nights in/out, seeks female, 30-50. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411919

CHRIS age 46 gsoh n/s seeks lady similar age, for nights out and music and theatre, no strings fun. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 412055

GARY 6ft 2ins, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, likes nights in/out, seeks female, 30-50. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411919

CHRIS age 46 gsoh n/s seeks lady similar

Losing streak goes on for OHHC

**OHHC 1sts 1
Old Silhillians 3**

OLD Halesonians Hockey Club Men's 1st XI continued their losing streak as they were dispatched 4-1 by newly promoted Old Silhillians.

The breakthrough came from a penalty corner which went through the legs of unfortunate goal-keeper Steve Charlton. Old Silhillians were able to double their lead prior to the half time break.

The second half saw Hales struggle to get up to speed, and the visitors found themselves 3-0 up.

Old Hales did stage a slight fight back, when Tom Bulteel scored a consolation. Halesonians travel to Stone next weekend, looking to escape their current run of poor form.

OHHC Badgers 3 Old Wulfrunians 2

Hales found themselves 2-0 down early on, but a hat-trick from Joe Shackleton sealed the win for them. The team played impeccably with some excellent build up play.

Other Results: Worcester 2 OHHC Ladies 1sts 4, goalscorers: Annie Smith; Warwick 2 OHHC 2nds 0; OHHC 3rds 3 Wolverhampton 3, goalscorers: Tom Hickman, Steve Butler, Alex Evans; Worcester 2-0 OHHC 4ths.

Dudley's Vase run is ended

Silhill 4 Team Dudley 1

A positive start from Dudley saw them move the ball well on a very wide pitch, however, the first chance fell to Silhill in 11 minutes, they headed an effort on target with Jones pushing it on to the bar. Fourteen minutes in and Silhill had a lead. James Ward gifted them the ball in midfield and they broke and shot across Liam Jones into the corner.

Just inside the second half Silhill doubled their lead. A 30 yard shot caught Jones out.

James Hill halved the arrears for TD.

A corner ended up being volleyed home for Silhill who went 4-1 up just after the hour.

Olsson being backed to play until 40

ALBION boss Alan Irvine believes out-of-favour defender Jonas Olsson can play on until he is 40.

Irvine has rejected suggestions that Olsson's recent injuries could take their toll and insisted the 31-year-old has many years of action ahead. "Having watched him in pre-season he wasn't somebody who was lagging behind everyone else by any means," said Irvine, who replaced Olsson with Joleon Lescott.

"He is a really good trainer. I certainly wouldn't have said his legs have gone."

"Centre-backs can play until a really good

Football

age. I worked with David Weir, who played until he was 40."

"I don't see a reason why Jonas can't play until he's 40 because as a mature, experienced centre-back you improve in terms of your positional sense even though you may lose a little bit of that explosive power you might have had as a younger player."

Career

"I certainly don't think Jonas is nearing the end of his career unless he wants to be."

If he wants to continue I don't see any reason why he couldn't keep on doing that."

"He's certainly a player I think has a big part to play. I think time will show that."

Olsson paid the price for a poor start to the season by losing his place to Lescott and the Baggies could now receive offers in January with QPR manager Harry Redknapp keeping tabs on the Sweden international's situation. Villa have also been linked with a bid in recent days but Albion, who have had no contact from officials at Villa Park, would be reluctant to sell him on to local rivals. And Irvine says Olsson has reacted

well to being axed from the starting XI.

"It has hurt him," admitted Irvine. "It has been something that has been difficult for him."

"But firstly he is a really nice person and secondly he is a great professional."

"He realises that these things happen at different times and the only way to deal with it is to train as hard as you possibly can and be ready for when your chance comes."

"There is no question that at some point we will have to put in other centre-backs. I expect Gareth McAuley and Jonas Olsson to play a part this season."

Riders rising from the ashes

BIRMINGHAM Brummies are set to rise from the ashes next season – with an application to enter Speedway's National League.

Former club owner Tony Mole has confirmed he will be entering the Brummies – with their traditional yellow and red race jacket colours – in the third tier of the sport as a starting point to rebuild the club.

All home meetings will be staged at Perry Barr with Cradley Heath also racing at the Aldridge Road venue on alternate weeks as the Heathens aim to defend their title.

Said Mole: "I am delighted to confirm I have reached agreement with all parties for Birmingham Brummies to submit an application to join the National League next season."

"This is very much the first stage in a rebuilding process and if the team is a success and we get the necessary support from fans then I will be looking to take the club up into a higher level."

"I am pleased to see Cradley Heath survive and they will be the team everyone wants to beat next season. They have won the title for the last two seasons and will be going for the hat-trick."

Thirteen is lucky for Ashfield

THE second West Midlands cross country League meeting, saw 21 Dudley and Stourbridge Harriers (Dash) taking part in the action at Wolverhampton.

Highest placed Dash runner on the day was Reece Ashfield, who improved in the under-15 boys race for 13th place with Jay Priantero in 36th.

Tom Slater put in a good show in the under-13 boys race for 15th as Harry Walters moved up 30 places on the first race for 40th, with Alex Hurrell 43rd and Adam Bodin 54th.

Grace Slater and Elliot Jones both ran well as Grace was 37th from 170 plus runners in the under-13 girls race and Elliot 15th in the under-17 men's.

Old Hales side have to fight for victory

Old Halesonians 17 Bromsgrove 13
THE Wassell Grove crowd was waiting with anticipation for the second game in two weeks against rivals Bromsgrove.

However, the visitors turned up with seven replacements to show their true strength. Although Hales started with the usual early pressure, the visitors were in no mood to repeat the previous week.

Rugby

All pressure from Hales was met with dogged defence and counter attacking that upset the home side's rhythm. Hales gave away two early penalties, both missed. On 11 minutes, Bromsgrove were in command and after a well-worked passage of play, forwards provided good ball for their backs to evade tackles to score a converted try to lead.

Stand in skipper Tom Jordan was determined to turn things around and led the defensive battle with non stop abrasive tackles.

Hales back row Jay Martin left the field injured, replaced by Loz Breese returning from injury 30 minutes of aggressive play from both sides saw neither giving way.

The ball arrived in the hands of fly half, player coach, Matt Williams inside his own half.

He carried 30 metres through the Bromsgrove defence and a pass to the supporting Chris Hooper saw him sprint to the line for a try which he converted to level the score.

The second half started pretty much the same with both sides giving no ground. Bromsgrove pressure was rewarded on 61 minutes



Carl Robinson on the move for Old Halesonians during their second clash with Bromsgrove

GET A FAST RESPONSE ADVERTISE

Local newspapers and websites offer the most effective combination for driving consumer action. Readers are more than twice as likely to act upon local advertisements than those on TV and social media

SOURCE: The Newspaper Society - Consumer Catalyst 2014

SPORT

Sports Desk 01902 319531

Tipton share in match spoils

Tipton Town 1 Alvechurch 1

TIPTON keeper Matt Martin ensured his side shared the spoils with Alvechurch in the Midland League Premier Division.

The home side took an eighth-minute lead when Paul Henley out-jumped the visiting defence at a corner and powered home a header.

Alvechurch got their chance to level in the 26th minute when Gareth Evans was unspended in the box. He got up to take the penalty but Martin diverted his shot for a corner.

Further pressure on the home goal eventually brought the equaliser, when Luke Shearer capitalised from Danny Carter's cross in the 41st minute.

Tipton hit back strongly in the second half, almost forging ahead again in the 47th minute when Simon Badine agonisingly saw keeper Keith Rostill turn the ball over the top.

Alvechurch stepped up the pace again. Dale Edwards crossed a Shearer cross a foot or so wide. As the game neared its conclusion, Joe Adams for the visitors cleverly weaved his way into the Tipton penalty area but Martin remained defiant.

Evans then tested Martin with a full-blooded drive but the Tipton keeper was equal to it.

Tividale are taken out

Tividale 0

Stafford Rangers 2 STAFFORD RANGERS got the better of their fourth meeting of the season with Tividale, claiming a 2-0 win in the first round of the Dodson Sport Cup.

Leigh Downing shot wide after a patient build-up by the home side.

A Tividale attack broke down early in the second half and Stafford went on the counter attack. Christian Daftres was left unmarked in the box to slide the ball home past keeper Charlie Price.

The goal brought the predictable response from the home side and Tividale should have been level on 56 minutes when Luke Paskin missed the target from a Downing corner.

On 70 minutes, Price had to make a double save. But two minutes later Cope fired past Price.

Old pub looks set to be Baggies' fan zone



Hawthorns pub could be transformed

AN Albion fans' spokesman has welcomed plans for a new 'fan zone' that will be launched on the site of a derelict pub right next to The Hawthorns next season.

Official supporters club chairman John Homer believes the scheme, which is planned for the historic Hawthorns pub, will help deal with the 'dearth' of facilities for fans on match days and will be somewhere for the Baggies fans to gather.

The Baggies this week revealed plans for a new match-day 'fan zone' in and around the Grade II listed building with the club hoping to demolish the east and west wings

Football

of the pub early next year to make way for the initiative for the supporters of the Premier League club.

The proposals for the site, on the junction of Halfords Lane and Birmingham Road, include live music, children's activities, food, drink and merchandise stands and a big screen.

Homer said: "It is an admirable idea. There is a dearth of facilities for fans close to the ground and hopefully this idea

will help do something about it. Fans struggle for things to do before the games so if this can help create some more atmosphere near the ground then I am all in favour of it."

"If it encourages more young fans to come along with their parents because there is something they can do before the game, it can only be a good thing," added the chairman.

"If the game isn't as good as they'd hoped, they will still have had a fun day out. It should help to improve the experience for the fans."

Baggies to shop in 2015

ALBION are considering a January facelift of their squad as Alan Irvine fine-tunes plans for the second half of the season.

The Baggies, who are traditionally quiet in January transfer windows, are eyeing up targets as they look to continue the major overhaul that began in the summer.

They are prioritising wingers and strikers after recruiting 10 new faces in the close season, while they could receive bids from rival clubs for out-of-favour duo Danny Olsson and Claudio Yacob.

Despite their mass recruitment following the departure of 13 players, the Baggies hierarchy acknowledge the squad requires further tinkering.

Head coach Irvine said: "It wasn't possible to do all the homework that we'd like to do because of the circumstances.

"I had suddenly landed in this job, there were 13 players who had gone and there was a great big hole that needed to be filled as soon as possible.

"With some of the boys we got to see them playing in the World Cup."

French defeat for Under-21s

ENGLAND Under-21s threw away a 2-0 lead as their 11-match winning streak was ended by France in a friendly in Brest.

An early brace from Harry Kane was not enough to secure victory. Wolves duo Dominic Iorfa and Kortney Hause figured for England Under-20s as they beat Portugal on penalties.

The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketley, Telford. Thursday, November 20

SECOND BITE FOR YELTZ IS FRUITFUL

Halesowen 2 Blyth Spartans 0

HALESOWEN sent Blyth away empty-handed with two second half goals.

The score saw the Yeltz progress to the third qualifying round of the FA Trophy. Ben Haseley had to wait a while to bag his 101st goal for the club. But on the 30 minute mark he broke through the Spartans defence.

He managed to get around the Blyth keeper who somehow managed to recover and made a brilliant save.

Halesowen came inches away from scoring five minutes before the break, as Iyseden Christie's shot was saved and Chris Lait's rebounded effort was some how cleared off the line by Danny Parker.

The Yeltz kept pressing, as Danny Bragoli's effort was saved yet again by Blyth keeper Peter Jeffries.

Searching

Halesowen kept searching for that crucial goal, as early on into the second half, Joe Hull managed to beat his marker in the air and headed the ball towards the goal, which hit the top of the bar and bounced out.

The deadlock was finally broken on 74 minutes, as Robert Thompson-Brown hit a low cross into the box, and Haseley was there to poke the ball into the net and to give the Yeltz a well-deserved lead.

Halesowen doubled their lead on 80 minutes, as the corner ball flew into the box, and once again Joe Hull beat his marker and this time headed the ball with precision into the back of the net.

It was a game of few chances but the North-East side took the lead in 54 minutes through Robbie Dale.

Delight as Heathens live to ride into 2015



New signing Michael Neale, centre, with promoter Gary Patchett and Will Pottinger

CRADLEY fans raised the roof at the Copthorne Hotel in Brierley Hill after news broke of the club's survival for 2015.

Almost 300 riders, officials and supporters packed the Earls Suite to hear the news that the reigning National League champions will be back to defend their title with home meetings at Birmingham's Perry Barr Stadium.

And in a further boost for the

sport it was confirmed the Brummies will also return to the track - also in the National League - after their mid-season collapse this year through financial troubles.

Heathens lost the use of Monmore Green which is only available for Elite League Wolves next year and there have been serious concerns over possible closure of the former Dudley Wood outfit.

But club co-boss Gary Patchett

said: "It's been hard, it's been tough, but we have agreed an arrangement with Birmingham to share Perry Barr next year."

"We have done this purely because of the supporters. We have so far been unsuccessful in finding a piece of land to call our own in the Dudley or Sandwell. I would like to thank Tony Mole at Birmingham and hope the Brummies fans turn out to support their side as well."

AFFORDABLE WINDOWS & DOORS

Put your **Trust** in Steve...Looking after Clients for 15 years



WINDOW
PACKAGES
NOW
AVAILABLE

DOOR
BARREL
CHANGES
from
£20

Victorian &
Edwardian
Conservatories
AVAILABLE
CALL NOW

www.wolverhamptonwindows.co.uk

07710 434223
01902 827879

GGF

FENSA